



**GFMD Ad Hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda
and the Global Compact on Migration**

**Recommendations to the 2018 High-Level Political Forum
27 April 2018**

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Foreword

As an intergovernmental body, the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) is glad to accept the invitation to provide substantive input to the 2018 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), highlighting its contribution to the 2030 Agenda in general, and particularly for migration-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets.

A particular focus of this year's GFMD contribution will be on:

- the **theme of the HLPF 2018 "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies"**;
- **Goal 17**, Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, which is reviewed every year;
- and the set of goals to be reviewed in depth in 2018, namely:
 - **Goal 6**: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
 - **Goal 7**: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
 - **Goal 11**: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
 - **Goal 12**: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
 - **Goal 15**: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

The GFMD ad hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda and the Global Compact on Migration under the co-chairmanship of Bangladesh and Germany in the framework of the German-Moroccan GFMD co-chairmanship 2017-18 has prepared the present input along the structure of the template provided by the HLPF. Our references include Summit meetings, workshops, sessions of the Platform for Partnership (PfP) and Common Space discussions. As such, this document reflects the diversity of discussions held in the GFMD context and thereby serves to inform this year's theme of the HLPF. It does not, however, intend to constitute a consensus view of GFMD participating states or anticipate their national positions. The GFMD Steering Group and the GFMD Friends of the Forum have given advice on these recommendations and, except for one delegation¹, welcomed its submission to the HLPF.

¹ By means of a Note Verbale, transmitted on 27 April 2018 to the Co-Chairs' Permanent Missions in Geneva, the United States of America indicated their reservation against the document.

(a) An assessment of the situation regarding the principle of “ensuring that no one is left behind” at the global level

This section examines the most recent GFMD discussions with a special view on reflections made on the principle of “ensuring that no one is left behind,” particularly migrants in vulnerable situations. In line with the 2018 HLPF theme to “create truly inclusive, sustainable and resilient societies,” it delves deeper into the issues of migrants’ access to services and migration in the context of climate change and disasters.

The principle of ‘leaving no one behind’ is critical to create truly inclusive, sustainable and resilient societies. As acknowledged in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while migrants contribute to development in societies, both in their countries of destination as well as origin, they can also represent a particularly vulnerable or marginalized group. In many contexts, they need particular attention when it comes to the protection of rights and ensuring the principle of non-discrimination. **In this year’s HLPF focus theme and goals related to migration, “leaving no one behind” translates into:**

- ensuring migrants and local populations equal access to services;
- paying particular attention to the rights and needs of persons moving – amongst other reasons – in order to adapt to the impacts of climate change;
- enhancing the resilience and reducing the risks of persons being forcibly displaced due to natural disasters²; and
- fighting environmental degradation and implementing effective measures to face natural disasters.

References to migrants in vulnerable situations have figured prominently in GFMD discussions, including the Stockholm Summit 2013-14, the Dhaka Summit 2016 and the Berlin Summit 2017. They were also included in the [Thematic Recollection 2007-2017](#) prepared by the GFMD for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration³.

Access to services:

Migrants can be (depending on the specific context) **one of the most vulnerable groups of a society** when it comes to access to a particular service (e.g. adequate, safe, affordable housing, basic services such as education, health, sanitation, as well as affordable, reliable and modern energy. Migrants might lack access to specific rights, capital or network compared to the local population and should be paid

² Since only those who can prove that they have suffered individual persecution are entitled to international protection under the criteria of the Geneva Refugee Convention, people who are forced to migrate after losing their livelihoods because of climate change or disaster face a normative gap and are therefore particularly vulnerable.

³ <https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/IOM-Input-to-RT-3-1-Background-paper-GFMD.pdf>

particular attention when ensuring access to services, housing and resources, in line with the principle of ‘leaving no one behind’.

At the same time, high numbers of migrants (including internal migrants and forcibly displaced persons) can add pressure on already scarce resources in host communities. Excluding some parts of the population from a specific service could increase social tensions. Thus, ensuring access to resources for all parts of the population – newcomers and local population alike – is an important integration issue.

It is, however, equally important to emphasize **migrants’ contributions to the national budget of their destination country** and to their development through labor and increase of their economic competences. Migrants contribute primarily through consumption taxes and migrant workers contribute through personal income tax. The GFMD dialogue on GCM noted down that 85% of migrants’ earnings are retained in their host country, and only 15% are sent back to their home country⁴. Migrants generate additional resources for governments and other stakeholders to deliver social protection programs. Therefore, when talking about the links between migration and access to services, it is crucial to stress the contributions that migrants make in their countries of destination, and the need to facilitate these through respective bilateral and global framework agreements.

In this context, particular attention should be paid to migrants’ access to social protection schemes. Many migrants are entitled to social security benefits but cannot transfer them internationally. **Missing “portability” of social security benefits for migrants** may lead to a gap in comparison to the country of origin when it comes to access to social protection. Other countries limit the portability of pensions by differentiating rates depending on the country in question (some countries ban pension payments for persons from selected countries). Social security benefits are especially crucial for low-skilled workers who, having sent regular remittances to support their families, often depend solely on these benefits as a source of investment when they return home. GFMD discussions have frequently pointed out that the portability of social benefits is a matter of basic fairness and therefore needs to be improved. The varied social security schemes across countries pose a risk for the portability of migrants’ social benefits.

Migration in the context of climate change and disasters:

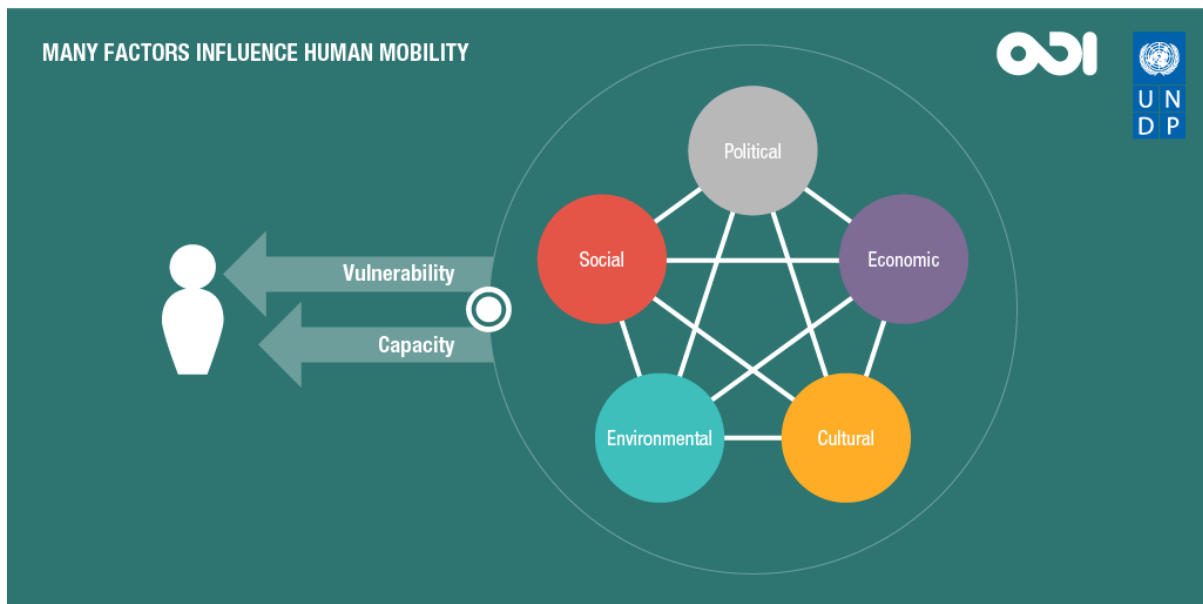
In the Global Forum, migration in the context of climate change and disaster was stressed for the first time at the 2010 GFMD Summit in Mexico, highlighting the **complex nexus between climate change, disaster and migration**⁵. Human mobility is a result of multiple factors: the decision to migrate and leave the place of residence often stems from several, partly interconnected reasons, i.e. demographic, ecological, political and socio-economic factors. Gradual climate change can indeed constitute

⁴ https://gfmd.org/files/documents/summary_report_of_opening_and_closing_plenary_sessions.pdf

⁵ https://gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd_mexico10_rt_3-2-background_paper_en.pdf

one of these factors or can influence the other factors that lead to the individual decision to migrate. Hence, the scientific community recommends refraining from making direct causal links between climate change and the decision to migrate⁶.

Figure 1: Factors that influence human mobility



Source: *Infographics: climate change, migration and displacement*, ODI, 2017

GFMD discussions have also shown that migration induced by climate change and disaster cannot be described as only positive or negative for the persons involved. On the one hand, **migration in this context may increase peoples' vulnerabilities**, especially when it happens in a forced and improvised way. On the other hand, **it can allow people to build resilience when it is conducted in a proactive and voluntary way**. In this sense, migration may be seen as an adaptation strategy that can reduce demographic pressures in ecologically fragile regions or provide a diversification of household income through remittances, when e.g. agricultural income decreases. Planned relocation is an adaptation measure of last resort⁷. It is crucial to emphasize that the concept of 'shared responsibility', which requires both countries of destination as well as countries of origin to work together on policies that reduce the factors that push people to move, including the adverse effects of climate change. It has to be kept in mind that activities boosting short-term development may have a negative impact on the climate change and environmental degradation in the long run.

Furthermore, when designing policies that aim to address migration in the context of climate change and disasters, the voices of migrants themselves, diaspora organizations and the private sector should be included, while better sensitizing the

⁶ <http://weblog.iom.int/migration-adaptation-strategy-climate-change>

⁷ https://gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd-mecc_analytical_report_final_version_clean.pdf

relevant actors regarding the possible risks. Hence, integrating all actors involved into the design and the implementation of respective policies might reduce this risk.

In order to ensure that *no one is left behind* at the global level, **particular attention should be paid to vulnerable groups**. Persons who do not have the resources to move or to build up a new livelihood elsewhere are particularly vulnerable (so called ‘trapped populations’). This may concern persons who have a low-paid income or persons who do not have an own income at all, such as children and youth, unemployed, elderly, ill or disabled people and, in some contexts, women. Moreover, these can often be entire groups or communities (e.g. in remote areas). The Nansen Initiative Regional Consultations at the margins of the Sweden GFMD Summit 2013-14 have highlighted that strengthening the resilience of communities at risk of natural and man-made hazards through development activities is a key element in disaster risk management, and in preventing both disasters and forced displacement in particular⁸. As stressed during the GFMD Thematic Workshop in Rabat in May 2017⁹, despite the consensus on the magnitude of the phenomenon, persons moving as a result of the impacts of climate change might not get a recognition in the international law, due to lack of reliable data and the need to provide quick and concrete responses. Nor do they fit into any of the categories already provided by the existing international legal framework. Reliable data on the impact of development policies on natural and man-made disasters is necessary with a view to address pull factors of climate-induced migration. The Nansen Initiative consultative process identified effective practices to address the protection needs of disaster displaced persons. In 2016, the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) was launched to follow up on the Nansen Initiative and to support the implementation of its recommendations.

Drawing on the wider GFMD expertise in this field, the GFMD Thematic Recollection 2007-2017 has presented a list of policy actions and options for practical action on how to address vulnerability and long-term needs of migrants throughout the different phases of a crisis and in the face of climate change and environmental degradation¹⁰. The Thematic Recollection further highlights the importance of encouraging states and other stakeholders to refer to existing frameworks, including the New York Declaration, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Paris Accord as well as the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change developed by the Nansen Initiative and the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Initiative.

⁸ https://gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd_sweden2013-2014_nansen_initiative_side_event_concept_note.pdf

⁹ https://gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd-mecc_analytical_report_final_version_clean.pdf

¹⁰ <https://www.gfmd.org/en-gfmd-thematic-recollection-2007-2017-contribution-qcm>

(b) The identification of gaps, areas requiring urgent attention, risks and challenges

This section reflects on each SDG in focus of the 2018 HLPF based on the categorization established for the GFMD's input to the HLPF last year (see table 1). This table is further elaborated on in the first part of section b. Based on this table, each focus SDG is analyzed according to a threefold structure. First, the link between the focus SDG and migration is highlighted. Second, the gaps, risks and challenges in relation to the respective focus SDG are identified; and third, an analysis is made from a migration-development perspective.

Looking at the goals subject of in-depth review in HLPF 2018, there are **several implicit links to migration. Goal 17 explicitly focuses in target 17.18** on disaggregated data on migration and reveals further strong implicit links. This report classifies the implicit and explicit links of the targets to migration into the following broadly defined and non-exhaustive categories, bearing in mind that some sub-goals can be attributed to several of these categories, which again is proof of the interrelatedness of the 2030 Agenda:

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

Table 1: Links between Migration and the 2030 Agenda¹¹

	EXPLICIT	VULNERABILITY / PROTECTION	POTENTIAL	EMPLOYMENT CREATION	CLIMATE
1. No poverty		X	X		X
2. No hunger				X	X
3. Good Health	X	X	X		
4. Quality education	X	X	X		
5. Gender equality	X	X	X		
6. Clean water and sanitation		X			
7. Renewable energy		X		X	X
8. Good jobs and economic growth	X	X	X	X	X
9. Innovation and infrastructure			X	X	
10. Reduced inequalities	X	X		X	
11. Sustainable cities and communities		X			X
12. Responsible consumption			X	X	
13. Climate action		X			X
14. Life below water			X	X	
15. Life on land		X			X
16. Peace and justice	X	X			
17. Partnerships for the goals	X		X	X	

Table 1 shows that the goals in the focus of this years' HLPF (highlighted above in orange) differ in the extent to which they link to migration. While all of them disclose implicit references to migration, only SDG 17.18 on migration-disaggregated data collection explicitly mentions migration. Four of them point at vulnerability of migrants and protection mechanisms, two at the development potentials of migration, and three relate to employment creation, thus addressing the drivers of migration. A new category on climate-induced migration has been added to the overview in order to highlight the links between migration and climate change, which is highly relevant against the background of this years' theme of creating truly inclusive, sustainable and resilient societies.

When looking at these goals from a migration perspective, the report applies the following threefold structure (as mentioned above):

¹¹ Blue: Goals in focus of the 2017 HLPF; Orange: Goals in focus of the 2018 HLPF; Green: Goals in focus of the 2019 HLPF

1. *Establish a link between the focus SDGs and migration;*
2. *Identify gaps, risks and challenges in relation to the focus SDG and migration;*
3. *Examine focus SDG from a migration-development perspective in line with GFMD discussions.*

SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

The availability (or lack) of water, and to a lesser extent sanitation, can shape people's willingness and ability to migrate. This is often framed in terms of 'pushing' people away from areas where water is scarce or inaccessible and 'pulling' them toward areas offering better access. However, the relationships between water resource availability, water-related extreme events and migration are not straightforward. Individual migration decisions are complex and based on a broad range of social, economic, political and institutional factors; the availability of water is just one of them. In other words, water and sanitation access may shape factors like jobs, food availability, and living standards, but people do not move solely to get improved drinking water services or better toilet facilities. There is also ample evidence that economic development in countries of origin leads to higher migration rates in the short and medium term¹². With development comes greater prosperity, which means people are more able to save money and finance their migration. Hence, **sustainable water resource management and access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services can be an ingredient supporting migration.**¹³

SDG 6 calls for universal access to safely managed WASH services, as well as for an end to water pollution and unsustainable extraction of water resources. Migrants face specific barriers in accessing WASH services, and pose specific challenges to service providers and host governments. The barriers vary across different contexts and range from high costs to limited knowledge of their rights and how to claim them, and underlying political and institutional factors that discriminate against them. Challenges stem also from failures in governance, not the amount of water available or the number of migrants.

Therefore, development-oriented migration policies should improve WASH access for migrants and strengthen the potential of WASH to support migration. They should be designed with the objective to cover migrants and host communities alike ('do no harm'), ensuring the participation of local communities in water and sanitation management (target 6.b). Furthermore, knowledge and skills transfers of the diaspora

¹² Haas, H. de, 2008. Migration and Development: a theoretical perspective.

<https://www.imi.ox.ac.uk/publications/wp-09-08>; Clemens, M., Postel, H., 2018. Can Development Assistance deter Migration? <https://www.cgdev.org/publication/can-development-assistance-deter-emigration>

¹³ Jobbins G., Langdown I., Bernard G., 2018 (*forthcoming*). Water and sanitation, migration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. London: Overseas Development Institute (ODI).

as well as remittances may lead to the improvement and development of water services in countries of origin¹⁴.

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

As with SDG 6, high numbers of migrants (including internal migrants and forcibly displaced persons) **can add pressure on already scarce resources**. Due to a growing world population and the trend to move to urban areas, many cities face increasing demands for goods and services and as a result an increase in energy consumption. At the same time, migrants can be (depending on the specific context) one of the most vulnerable groups when it comes to affordable, reliable and modern energy, since they usually get the lowest standards in this regard (see target 7.1). One specific vulnerability includes household air pollution and poor energy efficiency in housing. Hence, migration should form an integral part in resource planning. Resource scarcity and the exclusion of a particular group might enhance social tensions. From a migration-development perspective, policy-making aimed at enhancing access to energy services could include local migrant organizations in order to identify fields of intervention and potential gaps.

Furthermore, migrants' remittances often enhance or ensure access to energy services for households in the countries of origin. Moreover, **knowledge transfer and investment in form of remittances of the diaspora in the field of renewable energy** (e.g. through expert consultancies, educational partnerships or investments in renewable energy, including solar panels) **may also serve as a resource of innovation and growth** in the respective countries of origin.

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

The proportion of the world's population living in urban areas, particularly in secondary cities, is expected to increase to 66 per cent by 2050¹⁵. Migration and cities are strongly inter-related. Cities are the principal destination for internal migrants (rural to urban migration) and international migrants. Migration holds huge potentials as well as challenges when it comes to making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

On the one hand, many cities depend on internal and international migrants, because they fill labor gaps, transfer values, social activities, knowledge and innovation. Through them, cities can grow economically, culturally and socially. On the other hand, high numbers of migrants can be a challenging integration issue due to potential shortage of housing, increasing living costs, resource scarcity and lack of social

¹⁴ https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/Migration-is-Development-by-Peter-Sutherland_MPP.pdf

¹⁵ <http://www.citiesalliance.org/node/4972>

protection and basic services. In addition, many migrants face discrimination, marginalization and work in exploitative conditions due to their (sometimes irregular) migratory status. When it comes to access to services (e.g. adequate, safe, affordable housing, basic services - see target 11.1), migrants can find themselves to be left behind, representing one of the most vulnerable groups in a society. Natural disasters are a major cause for forced displacement. In order to reach target 11.5 to protect people from death and economic losses caused by natural and man-made disasters and target 11.b towards inclusive and disaster resilient cities and human settlements, the needs of forcibly displaced persons, in particular internally displaced persons, have to be part of related policies. Target 8.8 seeks to “protect labor rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers”. In cities, migrant workers often tend to work in the informal economy, prone to challenging working conditions and without access to social services¹⁶.

From a migration-development perspective, the way urbanization processes are managed and the types of jobs that migrants can access will have a great bearing on achieving the SDGs. Therefore, migration should be integrated into human settlement planning from the very beginning in order to maximize its potential and minimize its risks. An integrated and participatory process – including the local population and migrants equally – to reach integration goals and inclusive access to services, housing and resources is a promising approach (see target 11.3 on participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management). Policies aiming at decent job creation and at reducing barriers to set up businesses specifically targeted at migrant workers in risky environments are of paramount importance in order to strengthen opportunities for newcomers. Despite their enormous potential, **internal migrants are often neglected** in formal government policies at local and national levels¹⁷. From a migration-development perspective, internal migration holds great potential to reduce poverty. Given that the costs of moving internally are much lower than those of crossing borders, internal migration and sending/receiving internal remittances are more likely to involve poorer people. Even if internal remittances are likely to be smaller, these individual transfers can reach a much larger number of poor households¹⁸, depending on the economic situation of the country.

In order to make cities inclusive, multi-level coordination, including with non-governmental stakeholders, has proven instrumental and will allow local and regional authorities to feed their expertise and knowledge into national policy making for more responsive and pertinent national policies that can, in turn, be successfully implemented at the local level¹⁹. Furthermore, urban and rural spaces are inevitably linked economically, socially and environmentally and cannot be adequately dealt with

¹⁶ <https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/resource-documents/10959.pdf>

¹⁷ https://gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd_mauritius12_rapporteurs_report_rt2.pdf

¹⁸ <https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/resource-documents/10959.pdf>

¹⁹ https://gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd_2017-2018_rt_session_3.2_background_paper.pdf

in isolation from one another²⁰. Hence, integrated regional development planning should strengthen the role of migrants as development agents who naturally link urban and rural areas (target 11.a.).

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Migrants and returnees can be beneficial when striking responsible consumption since they can transfer knowledge and innovation from a particular sector in their country of destination to their country of origin (target 12.b). For example, migrants may bring important know-how in the area of renewable energy, including the use of solar panels for water heating.

Unsustainable production and consumption patterns have a negative impact on the environment and livelihood conditions and can present one of several factors leading people to leave their place of residence. From a migration-development perspective, policies need to take into account migration decision-making dynamics linked to production and consumption patterns. In order to prevent unsustainable production and consumption patterns, countries should aim at implementing the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production²¹ (target 12.1).

SDG 15: Life on Land

Unsustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, desertification, land degradation and biodiversity loss may increase the negative consequences of climate change. This is often associated with the successive loss of livelihoods, habitable land and security. In result, and potentially due to further political or socio-economic considerations, people may decide to migrate. Specifically, in the case of slow-onset disasters, migration can be an adaptation strategy to cope with the adverse effects of climate change. Policies to prevent environmental degradation and protect people on the move induced by climate change should be developed and adapted to regional, national and local contexts. Combating desertification and restore degraded land and soil (see target 15.3) is highly relevant to prevent people from being forced to build up a new livelihood elsewhere.

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development is crucial in order to implement the 2030 Agenda and all its 17 goals. Therefore, multi-stakeholder partnerships (see target 17.17) between governments, civil society, including migrant organizations, private sector, cities and

²⁰ <https://unhabitat.org/books/implementing-the-new-urban-agenda-by-strengthening-urban-rural-linkages/>

²¹ <http://web.unep.org/10yfp/about/what-10yfp>

development organizations are key for implementation. Since migration links countries of origin, transit and destination, the establishment of partnerships to manage migration is inevitable and only if based on these partnerships, migration can benefit all actors involved. In order to develop well-managed migration policies and to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration as in goal 10.7, an increase of the availability of data disaggregated by migratory status (target 17.18) is needed.

Furthermore, financial resources are crucial for the realization of the SDGs: target 17.3 stresses the mobilization for additional financial resources for developing countries. Remittances are the most direct and well-known link between migration and development. Remittances sent to households in developing countries amount to nearly three times the amount of official development assistance. The reduction of remittance costs, as mentioned explicitly in target 10.c, must be fostered in order to increase its development impact.

Migrants are development agents and should be considered important actors to increase exports of developing countries (target 17.11). Migrants who engage as entrepreneurs and employees of local companies can support innovation due to their knowledge of different societies and markets; they can support import, export, and transnational business relations due to their cultural and language skills. Often, they also engage in trade of products from their country of origin for the diaspora (so-called nostalgic products).

(c) Valuable lessons learned on transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies

This section examines how interventions in the migration arena in GFMD countries – ranging from small-targeted projects to wider programmes or reforms – can contribute to achieving the goals featured in this year’s HLPF. It considers how migration may have contributed to and/or interacted with sustainable development outcomes relevant to various targets under these Goals. Taking stock of these interventions helps to identify lessons learned and to consider possible new ways to include migration as a central consideration in approaches used towards forming sustainable and resilient societies. This section reviews the five goals featured in this year’s HLPF in addition to Goal 17 which is reviewed every year, and for each considers 1-2 projects in detail, and gives an overview of further relevant projects²². Furthermore, the Annex lists more projects from the [GFMD Policy and Practice Database](#) that are relevant to these 6 goals²³.

²² These feature projects were selected from the GFMD Policy and Practice Database – a repository of over 1,000 migration and development-related policies and practices that have been shared in the framework of GFMD Roundtable discussions, workshops and other activities – on the basis of their relevance to the SDGs in focus under HLPF 2018.

²³ The list is not meant to be exhaustive, but merely illustrative.

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

In some rural parts of the Republic of **Moldova**, limited access to essential services, including to clean water and sanitation, increases residents' vulnerability. It is estimated that 38% of the population did not have access to safe and drinking water in 2012 and around 43% was not connected to water infrastructure²⁴. Therefore, the objectives of an ongoing 2015-2018 project, called "**Moldova - [Making the Most of Migration](#)**", funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), are to improve access to essential services for rural communities and to also increase diaspora support to home communities towards this end.

Notable features of the project include its participatory methodology, and its ongoing focus on capacity building for local and national authorities. For example, it aims to expand the capabilities of local public authorities specifically to better plan, manage, budget, and implement public service management in 20 target communities. By setting up engagement mechanisms such as territorial hometown associations and using community mobilization techniques, local authorities will be able to engage different members of the community, including migrants and diaspora members, in their services planning. In turn, these (transnational) community members will be empowered to meaningfully contribute towards the development of their own home communities. The project specifically aims to engage with Moldovan citizens abroad in improving local water and sanitation services, and by setting up these mechanisms the project enables local authorities to take the next steps to facilitate these diaspora contributions.

By improving access to water and sanitation building on diaspora support, the project contributes to several targets under Goal 6, including but not limited to:

- Target 6.1: By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all
- Target 6.2: By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations
- Target 6.b: Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management

Further examples of practices relevant to Goal 6

- To establish [social cohesion between displaced persons and host communities](#) in the Sila region in **Chad**, a collaboration of UN agencies worked to reduce competition over water scarcity by training community members in water management while strengthening their capacities in human rights and conflict-mediation.

²⁴Sociological Study on Access of Women and Men Representing Vulnerable Groups in Moldova to Services and Decision Making at the Local Level, UN WOMEN, 2012.

- In **Montenegro**, the presence of hundreds of displaced families in a former refugee camp (Konik in Podgorica) was leading to unsustainable sanitation and waste disposal practices. [A project](#) by the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare of Montenegro improved waste management in the site by removing unregulated sanitary units, installing appropriate communal sanitation infrastructure and providing education and information on proper waste disposal.

Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

The [Transitional Solutions Initiative](#) (TSI) project in **Eastern Sudan** implemented by UNDP and UNHCR over 2012-2016, carried out several activities on improving access to clean energy amongst people on the move and host communities in the area. Areas hosting people on the move in Eastern Sudan are among the poorest in the country and have limited natural resources. Further, the presence of people on the move has had some negative effects on the local environment through extensive tree felling for use as biomass fuel (for firewood and charcoal). Increasing resource scarcity has led to some tensions between the people on the move and some host communities. Therefore, the project aimed to promote the use of cleaner energy, reduce the consumption of biomass fuel, and overall to improve energy conservation in the community.

This was done through the provision of liquid petroleum gas (LPG) units and energy-saving stoves, to replace the use of biomass fuel for cooking. The project distributed 5,177 LPG units and 930 fuel efficient stoves to as many households, which included both IDP and host community households, and trained 8,347 households in the construction of these fuel-efficient stoves. Aside from enabling cleaner energy use and reducing household fuel costs by 40-50%, the use of LPG enabled household members to engage in more productive tasks as they did not have to travel long distances in search of wood and had much shorter cooking times. The project used drama, songs and poems to spread environmental conservation messages and raise awareness on more efficient energy use, reaching 9,499 households this way. Overall, it was innovative in identifying how the use of alternative energy could help contribute to long-term peaceful coexistence of migrant and host communities, by better preserving the local environment and boosting the livelihoods of both migrants and the host communities. In this way, the project contributed to the area by in fact supporting all three elements of sustainable development; environmental, economic and societal.

By improving access to cleaner energy in migration-affected communities and directly linking migration and energy conservation, the project contributes to several targets under Goal 7, including but not limited to:

- Target 7.3: By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency
- Target 7.b: By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing

States, and land-locked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support.

Further examples of practices relevant to Goal 7

- The project "[Improving human security in the bateyes](#)" in the **Dominican Republic** aimed to improve the human security of residents and ensure that the needs of all vulnerable people in the area were met, for instance by securing documentation for migrant workers who need it. The project took a proactively migrant-inclusive approach to increase the use of renewable energy in the area, by holding workshops on sustainable energy use and installing solar panels in community centers.

Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Relevant projects do not just include the direct provision of services; some focus on information sharing. The [Mediterranean City-to-City Migration Project](#) (MC2CM) project was implemented by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) with United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) and UN Habitat. The aim was to create a network of European and Southern Mediterranean cities to facilitate knowledge exchange and contribute to improved urban migration governance, with a focus on inclusion, and migrants' access to rights and services. Since 2015, the project worked with the cities of **Amman, Beirut, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Tangiers, Tunis, Turin and Vienna**.

The project was successful in bringing together a network of migration stakeholders in countries of origin, transit, and destination along Mediterranean migration routes, and providing these with a space for peer-to-peer dialogue on their experiences in migration and urban planning. This included, for example a conference in Amman in 2017 to address the issue of social housing and urban planning for migrants. This facilitated mutual learning on specific urban challenges such as social cohesion, employment and provision of basic services for migrants. One key output of the project was to improve the evidence base on the topic, as [City Migration Profiles](#) were developed for each participating city. Based on desk and field research, these profiles mapped the urban stakeholders most relevant to migration in each city, detailed the status of migrants' access to housing, educational and vocational training, entrepreneurship schemes and other city services, and provided further information in this area. In this way, the project provided a strong platform for tailored and evidence-based action on migration governance in each city. Synthesized [recommendations](#) from the project research on how to improve migrant inclusion in the context of urban planning were adopted at a MC2CM Conference in Beirut 2017, and will inform a toolkit on local-level migration planning for future project stages. Planned next steps for the project include expansion to additional cities and the design of pilot projects to take these recommendations forward.

By focusing on issues on urban inclusivity and migration, MC2CM contributes to several targets under Goal 11, including but not limited to:

- Target 11.1: By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.
- Target 11.3: By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.

The [Platform on Disaster Displacement](#) (PDD) considers the data analysis and policies and practices to prevent and deal with urban displacement as a result of disasters. Established in 2016 by **Germany (Chair) and Bangladesh (Vice-Chair)**, PDD provides a toolbox to help prevent and prepare for displacement before a disaster strikes, as well as to better respond to situations when people are forced to find refuge. PDD aims to continue the work started by the Nansen Initiative, specifically to implement the recommendations of the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda.

PDD recognizes that “poor urban planning in rapidly expanding cities are important drivers of human mobility as they weaken resilience and exacerbate the impacts of natural and man-made hazards and climate change²⁵” and in this way the theme of safe and resilient cities is present throughout its efforts to further the Protection Agenda. PDD aims to address knowledge and data gaps in this area, including through further study on the prevention of, and response to disasters and disaster-related urban displacement. For example, it was involved in a research [report](#) commissioned by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) on urban displacement, *Urbanization, disasters and displacement in Central America and Southeast Asia*. PDD holds regular events such as workshops, including themes of safe and resilient cities. For example, in the Pacific Islands in 2018 it held a workshop that examined, among other topics, how to address rapid urbanization in Small Island Development States in the Pacific in the context of climate change²⁶. The PDD’s 2016-2019 Work plan is a living document outlining further outputs and activities it seeks to implement, and it is likely there will be further activities addressing urban resilience and displacement.

By directly linking the themes of disaster, migration and cities in many of its activities, and further by contributing rigorous research products to the knowledge base, PDD contributes to many targets under Goal 11, including but not limited to:

- Target 11.b: By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels.

²⁵ <https://disasterdisplacement.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/PDD-Leaflet-11-2016-screen.pdf>

²⁶ <https://disasterdisplacement.org/workshop-on-human-mobility-in-the-context-of-disasters-and-climate-change-concludes-in-fiji>

- Target 11.5: By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations.
- The Protection Agenda highlights that sustainable development is integral to reduce and manage disaster displacement risks, and in this way the PDD is linked to all SDGs.

Further examples of practices relevant to Goal 11

- [The Integration Strategy Group \(ISG\)](#) is an initiative of the [project](#) “Strengthening selected municipalities in the management of migration”, commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by GIZ. It brings together a group of approximately 20 **German, Moroccan and Turkish** participants from politics, administration, civil society, media and research to strengthen migration management and integration at the municipal level. These are convened regularly to discuss experiences and practices on integration, and so far the dialogue series has involved workshops and field visits to several cities.
- The **Canadian** [Cities of Migration](#) website describes local-level integration practices from around the world. Users can share lessons learned and discover innovative ideas for integration of migrants that can be adapted to fit their own urban context.
- Local authorities in **Sweden** run [citizen information centers](#) or “medborgarkontor” in areas with high numbers of migrants. These provide assistance to migrants on how to navigate local bureaucracies, apply for benefits and find housing, and other services.
- The [Migrants in Countries in Crisis](#) (MICIC) Initiative, a government-led effort co-chaired by the **United States and the Philippines**, aims to improve the protection of migrants when the countries in which they live experience a conflict or natural disaster. MICIC produced [guidelines](#) towards this and provides ongoing guidance to stakeholders from migrant host and home countries by offering a repository of practices and several capacity building tools, including many for local-level actors. The initiative recognizes cities’ key role in this space, and a local-level [version](#) of the MICIC guidelines were developed in 2016.

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

The [Initiative on Sustainability, Stability and Security](#) (3S) Initiative is an **African inter-governmental enterprise**, assisted by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) that seeks to tackle the factors that contribute both to conflicts being triggered and to forcing people to migrate. It does this in part by addressing issues of land scarcity, insecurity of tenure and competition for natural resources. Launched by Morocco and Senegal at COP22 in Marrakesh in 2016 and endorsed by several African Heads of State and Government at the first African Action Summit, 3S is led by a Task Force that meets several times a year, composed of representatives from 10-12 countries.

The project is innovative in making a direct link between sustainable use of natural resources and migration patterns, and recognizing that to effectively tackle the former, migration dynamics must be considered. Taking as a departure point that 200 million

people in Africa experience severe water stress because of insufficient and unreliable rainfall, and 60 million are at risk of moving from degraded areas in Africa over approximately the next ten years, the initiative seeks to address sustainability issues coherently with migration topics. Activities include advocacy, through working to build a common position on migration and natural resources across the countries in the Task Force. This is done, for example, by preparing position papers for key international events on migration including the GCM, G7 and GFMD, as well as by organizing symposiums, such as one in Burkina Faso in 2015, which examined the threats from conflicts linked to the degradation of natural resources. A key feature of the initiative is its function as a bridge from the regional to the global level. Through its increasing engagement in international fora on migration, the initiative builds partnerships with the wider development community, who can help support the development of rural infrastructure and land rehabilitation tools in the region.

3S also supports research on migration and natural resource issues, including on green jobs and land rehabilitation opportunities, and identifies areas where tenure or land access rights should be provided to vulnerable groups linked to migration, including for example unemployed rural youth, returned migrants, and former smugglers. The initiative plans to expand into project development by 2020, focusing on the rehabilitation of degraded lands and training communities in sustainable land management techniques.

In its clear focus on mainstreaming migration throughout efforts to address sustainable use of natural resource, 3S makes key contributions to several targets under Goal 12, including but not limited to:

- Target 12.2: By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.
- Target 12.8: By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature.

Further examples of practices relevant to Goal 12

- In **Nepal**, a project by the UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMIDI) helped strengthen the role of migrant returnees in creating less exclusionary communities. The project [Mitigation of caste-based and ethnic exclusion in rural areas through migration and development²⁷](#) improved opportunities to returning Dalits (also referred to as the 'lower caste' or 'untouchables') through the establishment of Dalit-run homestay businesses, which helped create self-employment opportunities for Dalits and may help foster economic growth in rural communities.
- With the help of the **United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)**, multilateral regional efforts took steps to mainstream migration into sustainable production and consumption plans, by explicitly including migrants in the [Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development](#).

²⁷ http://migration4development.org/sites/default/files/nepal_social_inclusion_case_study_new.pdf

Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

The EU-funded “[Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Evidence for Policy](#)” (MECLEP) project was implemented between 2014 and 2017 by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in a consortium of six universities. The project aimed to contribute to the global knowledge base on the relationship between migration, environmental and climate change and specifically, to offer policy recommendations on how migration, including displacement and planned relocation, can benefit adaptation strategies to environmental and climate change. The project focused on Dominican Republic, Haiti, Kenya, the Republic of Mauritius, Papua New Guinea and Viet Nam and involved rigorous mixed-methods research, a central capacity-building component, and several knowledge sharing activities.

Research outputs included country-level reports assessing the national status of the migration, environment and climate change relationship and a final synthesis report. The research produced a solid evidence base on the migration-climate change nexus in several countries and crucially, the findings of the study were paired with tangible policy recommendations, helping governments formulate relevant policy responses. The research also directly fed into global policy processes, including COP 22 and the Nansen Initiative policy process. The project’s capacity-building dimension focused on deepening government understanding of mobility aspects of disasters and slow-onset events, including desertification, and how to improve data on these issues, to enhance their overall capabilities to address environmental migration. The project produced the first training manual on migration, environment and climate change, which codified guidance on how to manage the relationship between sustainable use of natural resources and migration. A series of trainings were held targeting high-level policymakers and practitioners active in environmental and/or migration areas, to provide concrete tools to support national and regional policymaking processes²⁸. Further, through institutional steps such as setting up five national technical working groups, the project sought to maximize the utility of its findings towards facilitating national and regional policy coherence and cooperation on relevant issues. Finally, efforts were also made to improve research methodologies and strengthen future study in this area, through holding researcher trainings.

By producing a robust evidence base on migration and environmental topics, including how to manage displacement risks and other challenges linked to environmental degradation, and further by linking this directly with policy and capacity building, the project supported many targets under Goal 15, including but not limited to:

²⁸ <https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/training-workshops>

- Target 15.9: By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts.
- Target 15.5: Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.
- Further, several targets under Goal 11 on reducing risks of natural disasters (such as 11.5 and 11b).

Further examples of practices relevant to Goal 15

- [The Foresight Global Environmental Migration project](#) in the **UK** explored the global patterns and impacts of migration arising from environmental change, and possible interventions to address these. A report was produced using research from different disciplines²⁹, and an evaluation³⁰ on it found it had an impact on relevant policy making. The report fed into the Nansen Initiative as Foresight joined the Nansen Initiative Consultative Committee, and helped inform the 2012 Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) of the UK's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).
- The [Hugo Observatory](#), housed at the University of Liège, aims to develop empirical and theoretical research related to mobility dynamics in the context of environmental degradation. It partners with a number of local partner institutions for research to this end in **West Africa, Southeast Asia, and other regions**.

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Many migration projects that directly address SDG Goal 17 are listed in the GFMD database. This section describes two in detail, the first an example of partnerships, the second a migration information system.

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) implemented a project with the NGO Shuraako and the BiD Network called [Enhancing Food Security in the Horn of Africa through Diaspora Investment in Agriculture](#)³¹ to support innovative diaspora projects in **Somalia**. The objectives were to build the capacity of the Somali diaspora to become agents of development, by facilitating their contributions towards small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) development in Somalia. This was done as part of the wider IFAD programme [Diaspora Investment in Agriculture \(DIA\)](#).

The project set up the [Somali AgriFood Fund](#) in 2014, a matching seed capital fund to facilitate diaspora investment into agriculture, fisheries and food processing. The fund supported diaspora investment projects by offering a 40% contribution, while the

²⁹ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/867migrationscience.pdf>

³⁰ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/287852/12-1265-migration-one-year-review.pdf

³¹ <https://www.ifad.org/documents/10180/4fab1867-3435-4597-8968-80877b933faa>

remaining 60% was financed by the business owner and external capital, of which at least a third was financed by diaspora members. The project was successful in attracting significant diaspora investment and generating job creation; through combined diaspora and external investment, business contributions and seed capital, the project leveraged a total of 2,285,615 US Dollars. The approved projects involved 21 diaspora investors, who contributed 992,640 USD Dollars of this total. The agribusinesses created 241 new full time and 212 seasonal jobs, and opened market outlets for thousands of small-scale agriculture and fisheries producers.

Further, the project incorporated a crucial capacity building component. The first round of the project awoke interest from the national financial sector to play a greater role in facilitating diaspora investment, and it became clear the project could help build the capacities of Somali institutions to provide the diaspora with the services they needed to invest. Therefore, in a later round of the project, diaspora applicants were put in direct contact with Somali banks to complete their financing. Further, the Somali Banking Association was created to help strengthen Somali financial institutions, by for example improving their compliance with international banking standards. Another notable feature of the project was its contribution to data on diaspora. It commissioned an online Somali Investment Survey in 2015,³² which almost 1,000 participants in 33 countries responded to, providing important new information on Somali diaspora investment.

By mobilizing the diaspora so effectively towards sustainable development in Somalia, and further by empowering local stakeholders to leverage diaspora contributions better themselves, the project made key contributions to targets under Goal 17, including but not limited to:

- Target 17.3: Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources.
- Target 17.16: Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries.
- Target 17.17: Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships.

The [“Statistical Information System on Migration in Meso-America”](#) known widely under its Spanish acronym SICREMI, is a joint effort of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Set up in 2009, it is a migration information system to capture and monitor key migratory movements from, to and between Central American countries and Mexico, as well as from those countries to OECD countries. The countries included in

³² <http://shuraako.org/sites/default/files/SDIS-Survey-Report.pdf>

the project are **Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama.**

The project compiles, analyzes and publishes information from different sources of migration data, including censuses, household surveys and administrative records. Biannual reports are produced with statistics and analysis on key trends. The latest publication in 2017³³, *International Migration in the Americas*, showed that between 2012-2015, 7.2 million people left their countries in the Americas with 48% emigrating to the US and Canada, 34% to Latin America and 18% to Europe, and that Barbados, Chile, Ecuador and Panama were emerging migrant destinations. Further, the SICREMI website contains regularly updated charts, infographics and many other user-friendly documents on other migration topics, including irregular migration and regional asylum trends.

Aside from acting as a valuable information tool for policy makers and others to base policy and programmatic decisions at the national-level, SICREMI facilitates regional dialogue on migration. The project develops migration indicators that are comparable between countries³⁴, allowing cross-country analysis to take place and helping build responsive and evidence-based regional frameworks. Further, the SICREMI project is also used to engage in capacity building. As it coordinates and compiles data from so many government agencies across countries, including from national statistical offices, it has provided technical help to a number of these agencies and helped strengthen the resources and overall capabilities of several national institutions on migration data.

By significantly strengthening regional migration data and analysis, as well as carrying out ongoing statistical capacity building, SICREMI contributes to:

- Target 17.18: By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of 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.
- Through improving data and strengthening the evidence base across so many migration topics, it also enables contributions of migration towards targets across other Goals.

Further examples of practices relevant to Goal 17

- The **Swedish** Consumer Agency provides a [free online information service for remittances](#). Moneyfromsweden.se ranks remittance providers by price and transfer rate, and has high accessibility as it is translated into 16 languages and covers 32 countries. This aims

³³ <http://www.oas.org/documents/eng/press/SICREMI-2017-english-web-FINAL.pdf>

³⁴ https://www.cepal.org/celade/noticias/documentosdetrabajo/7/36587/JM_2009_SICREMI-OECD.pdf

ultimately to reduce remittance transaction costs, enabling the mobilization of additional financial resources to developing countries.

- [AFFORD-UK](#) is a diaspora organization in the **UK** that supports business and job creation in countries of origin. For example, it provides business development support to African diaspora entrepreneurs to develop or launch businesses in Africa, and through its Diaspora Finance Initiative (DFI) enables diaspora investment in Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe.
- The [Database on Migrants in OECD Countries](#) provides comparable and comprehensive information on different demographic and labor market characteristics of migrants in **OECD countries**. It allows a deeper understanding of various migrant characteristics and is geared to inform concrete policy development in key issues.
- IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) launched [the Global Migration Data Portal](#) in 2017, to serve as an access point to timely, comprehensive migration statistics and reliable information about migration data globally, and to act as a capacity building tool for governments and others.
- The [ECOWAS Regional Guidelines on Migration Data Collection and Data Management](#) and an accompanying training kit were developed in 2017, as part of the Project "Support to Free Movement of Persons and Migration in **West Africa** (FMM West Africa) implemented by a consortium including IOM, ICMPD and ILO. Governments were trained to strengthen capacity in migration data collection and management, allowing improvement and harmonization of data at the regional level and including UN recommendations on migration statistics in the framework of SDGs.

(d) Emerging issues likely to affect building sustainable and resilient societies:

Migration to urban areas, be it internal or international, is a growing phenomenon. How inclusion and integration governance challenges are managed on the local level, is likely to affect building sustainable and resilient societies. This includes dealing with questions of resource scarcity, equal access to affordable and high quality services for all, including housing, electricity, heating and cooking, as well as fostering social cohesion.

Global climatic change and associated phenomena (e.g. stratospheric ozone depletion, changes in sea level, drought etc.) will intensify in coming years. **Climate and environmental factors will play an increasing role in individual decisions to migrate in more and more areas worldwide.**

Furthermore, migration is a key determinant of sustainable development in rural, mostly agricultural, areas. Three-quarters of the world's poor and hungry live in rural areas. Agriculture and rural development are of such high importance because hunger is on the rise for the first time in ten years. At the same time, around 40% of international remittances are sent to rural areas, indicating that an important share of the world's migrants come from there. The productive use of remittances and the transfer of knowledge from migrants are key for rural development in their areas of origin. By investing in rural development, the international community can harness the

positive impact of migration such as remittances, mitigate migration-related risks and create better perspectives for people residing in these areas³⁵.

In negotiations and discussions around the Global Compact for safe, orderly and regular Migration (GCM), destination and origin countries tend to stress their specific perspective on migration. GFMD would like to highlight that for societies to be sustainable, resilient and inclusive, **it is important to strengthen and build up strong multilateral partnerships, that include countries of destination, transit and origin, and to ensure the protection of all human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migration status.**

(e) Areas where political guidance by the high-level political forum is required:

This section examines two major areas where political guidance by the HLPF is required. The HLPF should highlight cooperation as the central issue for the achievement of migration-related SDGs and its monitoring results should feed into future migration review forums and follow-up mechanism of the GCM.

Throughout the recent global processes on international migration, it has become clear that **migration is a topic that requires meaningful collaboration between a plethora of different actors.** This is clear from Goal 17 which apart from calling to revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development, specifically calls for public, public-private and civil society partnerships to take development further. Further, the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants acknowledges that multi-stakeholder dialogues on migration and development are crucial³⁶ and recognizes the GFMD's role in this regard³⁷. There has never been a more pressing or relevant time to act across sectors and institutions on migration and development.

As the key international forum to address migration and development links, the GFMD is uniquely positioned to build and leverage multi-stakeholder partnerships to this end. The GFMD puts into action the principles of multi-stakeholder approaches, with initiatives that include all types of actors with a key stake in migration and development.

- The annual Civil Society Days allow civil society actors to come together and discuss the agenda and experiences in the protection of migrants' rights, migration's link to human development and other topics.

³⁵<http://www.globalmigrationgroup.org/system/files/Migration%20and%20Rural%20Development%20Flyer.pdf>

³⁶ "We invite the private sector and civil society, including refugee and migrant organizations, to participate in multi-stakeholder alliances to support efforts to implement the commitments we are making today".

³⁷ "We note in this regard the valuable contribution of the Global Forum on Migration and Development and acknowledge the importance of multi-stakeholder dialogues on migration and development"

- The GFMD Business Mechanism offers a platform for the private sector to engage with policymakers and other practitioners on specific migration issues, for example to find labour migration mechanisms that are flexible and responsive to business needs while protecting migrants' rights.
- The annual Mayoral Forum on Mobility, Migration and Development gathers city leaders to promote dialogue and support innovative approaches to urban governance on migration.
- The [Migration Laboratory](#), launched by the German and Moroccan GFMD Co-Chairs through the Ad Hoc Working Group, provides spaces for exchange on migration and development outside of formal processes by convening international thought leaders, government, CSO and private sector representatives from different countries as envisaged in SDG 17.18. of the 2030 Agenda and the guiding principles of the GCM.
- Finally, Common Space discussions have enabled different actors to brainstorm how to progress development outcomes of migration on several targeted topics.

Overall, the **GFMD brings a key added value to the migration and development scene as a catalyst for multi-stakeholder partnerships**. It empowers stakeholders across sectors to discuss and progress the development impacts of migration, and by uniting these enables new perspectives and ideas to arise. In this way, it ensures that **no one is left behind** in the migration and development conversation.

The major global policy document on development, the 2030 Agenda and the major global policy document on migration, the Global Compact on Migration frame their vision for international migration in exactly the same terms: safe, orderly and regular. Hence, **the results of the HLPF, as the main UN platform on the review of the 2030 Agenda, and the outcomes of the future review forums and the follow-up mechanism of the GCM should mutually inform each other** in order to create synergies and avoid overlapping.







(f) Policy recommendations on ways to accelerate progress in establishing sustainable and resilient societies

This section summarizes major GFMD recommendations related to the focus goals of the 2018 HLPF and migration.

General recommendations:

- **Involving a wide range of stakeholders** ensures projects are more effective and sustainable. Recognizing that a multitude of actors play valuable roles in all aspects of the migration process, it is necessary to proactively take an inclusive and whole-of-society approach when planning, designing and implementing migration and development interventions. Where possible, it is especially valuable to directly involve migrants, diaspora members, local politicians and the private sector throughout the project using participatory methods.
- **Engaging the diaspora** can increase the impact of certain interventions, both through mobilizing resources available and increasing their legitimacy and potential sustainability.
- **Adopting regional approaches** can be a valuable way to link national and international-level efforts to address migration and development, and can enable sharing of experiences between countries with similar opportunities and challenges even beyond project completion.
- **Expanding direct target beneficiaries beyond migrants** to include host populations can lead to positive impacts past the direct goals of the intervention. Involving host communities in project activities can reduce potential tensions between these and migrants and ensure no one is left behind, as well as strengthen long-term sustainable development outcomes for a given area as a whole.
- **Embedding capacity building** elements into interventions are a key method to improve their sustainability. Further, capacity-building activities can be sequenced to increase in stages of the project as appropriate, to incrementally work towards these aims.
- **Consolidating and sharing data** on impacts of interventions on an ongoing basis is important and needs to be improved. Many projects on migration and development involve a range of implementation partners working together over years and/or regions; in these especially, meaningful and regular exchange of project information, effectiveness and good practices must take place. Further, where possible interventions can also strengthen the evidence base by carrying out and disseminating their own data collection.

Specific Recommendations in view of the migration-related SDGs in focus of the 2018 HLPF and beyond:

- Support the establishment of partnerships between Diaspora organizations, local public services and the private sector for the improvement of sustainable management of water and sanitation building. 
- Enhance access to (clean) energy services in migration-affected communities through the involvement of migrants and host communities in order to avoid tensions triggered by resource scarcity and to identify fields of intervention. 
- Integrate migration into human settlement planning from the very beginning in a participatory manner in order to maximize its economic, social and cultural potential and minimize its risks. 
- Foster the role of migrants as entrepreneurs and, more broadly, as knowledge bridge between countries of origin and destination in the field of sustainable production and consumption. 
- Improve data on mobility aspects of climate change and disasters (including the causes thereof on development) and promote adequate protection, particularly through the establishment of specific humanitarian visas, the recognition of “climate asylum” or the implementation of temporary protection mechanisms. 
- Foster multi-level coordination that allows actors from different sectors to feed their expertise and knowledge into national policymaking in order to make cities more inclusive and resilient. 

Annex:

The Annex compiles relevant projects from the [GFMD Platform for Partnerships \(PfP\)](#) database³⁸ supporting Goals 6, 7, 11, 12, 15 and 17.

Name and hyperlink	Aim	Key partners	Goal
Moldova - Making the Most of Migration	To improve access to essential services for rural communities and increase diaspora support to home communities towards this end.	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)	6
Establishing social cohesion between displaced persons and host communities in the Sila region	To reduce competition over water scarcity between displaced persons and host communities in Chad, by training community members in water management.	Various UN agencies.	6
Sustainable waste management in Konik area, Podgorica	To improve sanitation and waste management practices of displaced communities in a former refugee camp in Montenegro.	Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare of Montenegro.	6
The Transitional Solutions Initiative (TSI)	To improve access to clean energy amongst refugees and host communities in Eastern Sudan.	UNDP and UNHCR.	7
Improving human security in the bateyes	To improve the human security of residents in the bateyes in the Dominican Republic and ensure that the needs of all vulnerable people in the area were met, including migrant workers.	Various UN agencies.	7
Mediterranean City-to-City Migration Project	To bring together experts and cities from Europe and the Southern Mediterranean to contribute to improved urban migration governance.	International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)	11
The Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD)	To help policymakers prevent and deal with urban displacement as a result of disasters.	Various; Germany (Chair) and Bangladesh (Vice-Chair).	11
Strengthening selected municipalities in the management of migration	To bring together a group of approximately twenty German, Moroccan and Turkish participants from politics, administration, civil society, media and research to strengthen migration management and integration at the municipal level.	GIZ on behalf of German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development,	11
Cities of Migration	To showcase positive city-level migrant integration practices that provide solutions to common problems and challenges.	Various.	11
Citizen information centers (medborgarkontor)	To provide assistance to migrants in Sweden on how to navigate local bureaucracies, apply for benefits, find housing and more.	Swedish local authorities.	11
Migrants in Countries in Crisis	To improve the protection of migrants when the countries in which they live experience a conflict or natural disaster, including in cities.	State-led; led by US/Philippines.	11

³⁸ These feature projects were selected from the GFMD Policy and Practice Database – a repository of over 1,000 migration and development-related policies and practices that have been shared in the framework of GFMD Roundtable discussions, workshops and other activities – on the basis of their relevance to the SDGs in focus under HLPF 2018.

Moroccan National Strategy on Immigration and Asylum	To promote integration and access to housing, the healthcare system, education, housing, employment, and other services for migrants in Morocco	Government of Morocco.	11
Mayoral Forum on Mobility, Migration and Development	To promote globally relevant policy dialogue, foster the exchange of experiences in governing migration, and strategize on how to work collectively.	United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), IOM, the World Bank, JMDI.	11
Business City Partnership Project	To forge cooperation between the private sector and various city stakeholders, to improve migration and labour market outcomes in Rotterdam.	The Hague Process, City of Rotterdam, Port of Rotterdam.	11
Urban Projects Switzerland	To develop projects in socially and economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, to improve cohabitation between the local population and migrants.	Five Swiss federal agencies.	11
Diversity Charter	To engage the business community in making Copenhagen “must inclusive city in Europe” by improving regulations for businesses to adhere to diversity and non-discrimination.	City of Copenhagen.	11
7th Five Year Plan (2016-2021)	To build a development plan in Bangladesh that emphasizes growth, social protection, urban transition and resilience to disaster and climate change.	Planning Commission of the Government of Bangladesh.	11
Sendai Framework	To develop a multi-stakeholder, voluntary, non-binding agreement to reduce disaster risk	The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).	11
National Policy on International Migration; Plan of Action in support of the rehabilitation and reintegration of forced returnees/involuntary returned migrants	To improve the living conditions of migrants in Jamaica, particularly in cities, by supporting the rehabilitation and reintegration of forced returnees and involuntary returned migrants.	Planning Institute of Jamaica (with JMDI).	11
“Bien Vivre Ensemble” (Living well together)	To improve the integration of migrants in Morocco, by supporting local actors implement economic, social and cultural integration projects in Rabat.	GIZ on behalf of German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.	11
The Initiative on Sustainability, Stability and Security (3S)	To link migration with regional efforts to address various types of instability, such as from resource scarcity, and to address drivers of migration.	Various; state-led.	12
Mitigation of caste-based and ethnic exclusion in rural areas through migration and development	To improve opportunities to returning Dalit migrants in Nepal through business and job creation.	UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI).	12
Productive Migrant Village	To promote sustainable entrepreneurship through the establishment of cooperatives for migrant workers and their families.	Indonesia	12
Montevideo Consensus on	To apply a rights-based approach to addressing sustainable production and consumption, integrating migration considerations while doing this.	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and	12

Population and Development		the Caribbean (ECLAC); various states	
Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Evidence for Policy (MECLEP).	To contribute to the global knowledge base on the relationship between migration, environmental and climate change and offer recommendations on how migration can benefit adaptation strategies to environmental and climate change.	IOM.	15
The Hugo Observatory	To develop empirical and theoretical research related to mobility dynamics in the context of environmental degradation.	University of Liege	15
The Foresight Global Environmental Migration project	To explore the global patterns and impacts of migration arising from environmental change, and interventions to address the opportunities and challenges of this.	Various UK government agencies.	15
Enhancing Food Security in the Horn of Africa through Diaspora Investment in Agriculture	To support innovative diaspora projects in Somalia.	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); NGO Shuraako; BiD Network.	17
Continuous Reporting System on International Migration in the Americas (SICREMI)	To contribute to the monitoring of international migration movements in the region through rigorous and up-to-date information on migration flows.	Organization of American States (OAS) in collaboration with OECD.	17
The Global Migration Data Portal	To serve as a unique access point to timely, comprehensive migration statistics and reliable information about migration data globally.	IOM Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC).	17
Assessing the Economic Contribution of Labour Migration in Developing Countries as Countries of Destination (ECLM)	To arrive at a reliable and evidence-based understanding of how immigration affects the economies of a number of low- and middle-income countries.	OECD.	17
AFFORD-UK	To enhance the contribution that Africans in the diaspora make to Africa's development through businesses and job creation.	AFFORD-UK.	17
Moneyfromsweden.se	To provide a free online information service to rank remittance providers by price and transfer rate.	The Swedish Consumer Agency	17
ECOWAS Regional Guidelines on Migration Data Collection and Data Management	To strengthen the capacity of governments in ECOWAS countries in migration data collection and management.	Consortium including IOM, ICMPD and ILO.	17
Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development (GFRID)	To bring together key decision-makers from different sectors on remittances, investment and development, to share lessons learned and best practices, and to stimulate partnerships.	IFAD, UNDESA and the World Bank.	17
GeldtransFair.de	To increase transparency in the remittance market by allowing users to compare fees charged to transfer money from Germany to different countries.	GIZ on behalf of German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.	17

The African Remittances Institute (AIR)	To facilitate cheaper, faster, and more secure remittance flows from Europe to Africa.	The World Bank, the European Union (EU), the African Development Bank and IOM	17
SECO Start-up Fund	To promote growth in developing and emerging countries by providing financing to Swiss individuals or companies to invest in ventures in partner countries of Switzerland's development cooperation.	Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs.	17
Global Call for Proposals: Scaling Up Remittances (SURE)	To leverage the impact of remittances and diaspora investment for rural development.	IFAD.	17
Diaspora Business Centre	To make diaspora investment and remittances more effective, and to connect Western markets with emerging markets in various countries.	Diaspora Business Centre.	17
El Salvador Global	To contribute to the scientific, academic, technological, and business development of El Salvador by engaging highly qualified Salvadorans abroad.	Fundación Salvador Moncada para el Avance de la Ciencia, Asociación Nacional de Industriales (ANDI) with GIZ.	17
Migration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	To explain the relationship between migration and critical development issues that are central to the SDGs, providing recommendations for governments and policymakers.	Overseas Development Institute (ODI).	17
Migration Tools – Options for Sustainability (MITOS)	To help leverage the potential of migration for private sector development and provide options for sustainable economic development, in particular promotion of trade, innovation, start-ups and investments.	GIZ on behalf of German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.	17
Ensuring vertical policy coherence in migration management for development through strategic coordination mechanisms	To localize, mainstream and actualize migration and development (M&D) issues and projects in provinces, cities and municipalities in the Philippines.	JMDI.	17
Migration Profiles	To act as a tool for developing and advocating an evidence-based approach to migration policymaking.	IOM, the European Commission (EC), ICMPD, various others.	17
Guidance Note on Integrating Migration and Displacement in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks	To outline options and suggestions on policy coherence regarding the links between human mobility, and different aspects of social and economic, development, rural development, climate change, good governance, peace and security and more.	Global Migration Group (GMG)	17
Private Sector Participation in Labour Migration Management	To establish public-private-partnerships to provide skills training and financial literacy programs for returning migrants in Nepal.	Nepalese Ministry of Labour and Employment with IOM.	17

International Diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA)	To promote and support diaspora-centered initiatives in entrepreneurship, volunteerism, philanthropy, diplomacy and social innovation and foster their engagement with US government.	U.S. Department of State, USAID and the Calvert Foundation.	17
Diaspora Engagement Hub in the Republic of Moldova	To support Moldovan citizens abroad in implementing their ideas and engaging the human and professional capital of the diaspora towards national and local socio-economic development.	Moldavian Diaspora Relations Bureau (BRD) with IOM.	17
National Policy on Migration	To provide an appropriate legal framework in Nigeria for monitoring and regulating migration, and proper collection and dissemination of migration data.	Government of Nigeria, with IOM and the EU”.	17
Identification of Togolese Diaspora Workers and Support to Project Investment of Migrants in Togo	To support the Togolese government in its efforts to mobilize Togolese diaspora for the development of Togo.	Action Movement for Social Renewal (MARS)	17
The African Postal Financial Services initiative	To enhance competition in the African remittance market by promoting and enabling post offices in Africa to offer remittances and financial services.	IFAD and the EC, with the World Bank, Universal Postal Union (UPU), World Savings Banks Institute and United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF).	17