Objectives

1. To informally discuss relevant policies and practical challenges and opportunities of the migration-development nexus;

2. To exchange good practices and experiences, in order to maximize the development benefits of migration and migration flows;

3. To foster synergies and greater policy coherence at national, regional and international levels between the migration and development policy areas;

4. To establish partnerships and cooperation between countries, and between countries and other stakeholders;

5. To structure the international priorities and agenda on migration and development.

**Germany & Morocco 2017-2018**

In forming a Co-Chairmanship, Germany and Morocco intend to send a strong signal for bridging the Mediterranean Sea, for linking Africa and Europe in a time when migration is a reality in large parts of the world.

Germany as well as Morocco have long standing experience with all facets of migration and a successful bilateral migration partnership. They aim to offer their respective expertise as countries of destination, transit and origin to the GFMD process during the course of their Co-Chairmanship.
Civil Society and Business Mechanism

In view of the societal implications of these issues, civil society representatives have also been involved from the outset in this process. The GFMD Civil Society Days are the yearly occasion to discuss their contributions to the agenda for the protection of migrants’ rights and human development, and to formulate action plans and recommendations for governments to follow up on. A Common Space during GFMD’s annual forum meeting engages both government and civil society representatives in open dialogue.

The GFMD Business Mechanism brings the voice of business to the forum. There is clearly a mutual interest between governments, the private sector, and civil society to promote more transparent, effective and humane migration policies, taking into account labor market needs and internationally recognized labor rights.

Priorities 2017-2018

Mandated by the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, the GFMD under the German-Moroccan Co-Chairmanship 2017-2018 will contribute towards global dialogue and collaboration and to the intergovernmental negotiations on the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

Germany and Morocco are privileged to assume the Co-Chairmanship of the GFMD at a time when the implementation of migration-related goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development enters a crucial phase.

GFMD intends to add the accumulated expertise gathered within its framework to the relevant international processes as well as make recommendations on the interlinkages between the migration-related SDGs and their various targets and indicators.