

## **GFMD Recommendations to the Global Compact on Migration**

### **CLUSTER 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 on migration has figured prominently in all GFMD Summits. 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. The need to collect and analyze data for improved, evidence-based migration policies and accountability has also figured prominently in the GFMD debates in the last years. GFMD discussions at the 2017 Berlin summit also started to address the issue of return and reintegration.

Likewise, the [Sutherland Report](#) puts particular attention to the issue of international cooperation and governance on 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<sup>1</sup>. In broad terms, the report recommends investing in State capacities to manage migration<sup>2</sup>; foster inclusive national debate and policy coherence on migration<sup>3</sup>; empower cities and local governments<sup>4</sup>; and strengthen United Nations leadership and capacities on migration<sup>5</sup>. More precisely, in relation to return, readmission and reintegration, the report urges states to develop global principles on these matters.<sup>6</sup> Acknowledging 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. The need to improve data<sup>7</sup> is another convergent issue between GFMD discussions and the [Sutherland Report](#).

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<sup>1</sup> [Report of the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration, A/71/278, \(Sutherland Report\)](#), Recommendation 15.

<sup>2</sup> [Sutherland Report](#), Recommendation 11

<sup>3</sup> [Sutherland Report](#), Recommendation 13.

<sup>4</sup> [Sutherland Report](#), Recommendation 14.

<sup>5</sup> [Sutherland Report](#), Recommendation 16.

<sup>6</sup> [Sutherland Report](#), Recommendation 7.

<sup>7</sup> [Sutherland Report](#), Recommendation 12.

Past GFMD discussions have come up with a significant number of recommendations around the relevant topics. These include (selection):

*(1) Policy and institutional coherence and (regional) partnerships*

- **Mainstream migration into national and local development plans**, Poverty Reduction Strategies, National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPAs), 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.
- Facilitate the **participation of representatives from local governments, the private sector as well as Civil Society Organizations**, including associations of migrants and diaspora.

*(2) Synergies at the sub-national, national, regional and international levels*

- 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.
- Provide **capacity building measures to local authorities** for planning, implementing and evaluating activities at local level.

*(3) Fact-based governance, impact orientation and monitoring*

- Improve the **collection, analysis and sharing of data on migration** (including gender disaggregated data). To ensure comprehensive and reliable data all relevant government agencies should provide available data.
- Develop **migration profiles for local, national and regional contexts** and include gender-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.

*(4) Multi-stakeholder involvement*

- 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**, covering all policy dimensions of migration and ensuring that “no migrant is left outside” of the framework.
- Foster **exchanges of information, best practices, and cooperation between all stakeholders** involved to ensure coordination, complementarity and coherence across all activities.

#### *(5) Return and Reintegration*

- Reinforce the **effectiveness of cooperation and partnership on return migration** between countries of origin and countries of destination through bilateral agreements and regional initiatives.
- 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.
- Identify **key indicators for successful return and reintegration**, monitor the impacts and strengthen the evaluation capacity at all levels to make return and reintegration more sustainable

#### **Guiding questions for the discussion:**

A number of recent UN documents, such as the [2030 Agenda](#) and the [Sustainable Development Goals](#), provide a framework – although not legally binding to states – that addresses a number of migration and development-related challenges. With this in mind:

- How can the GCM facilitate sustainable implementation of commitments in international standards and frameworks related to the topics covered by this thematic cluster?
- How can the GCM further advance relevant recommendations and good practices shared within the GFMD and affirmed in several UN documents, notably the [Sutherland Report](#), the [New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants](#)<sup>8</sup> and the latest [Report of the Secretary General on Migration](#)<sup>9</sup>?
- Which current challenges, if any, are not yet sufficiently covered by existing international standards and frameworks and therefore require specific emphasis by the GCM?

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<sup>8</sup> [New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants](#), A/Res/71/1.

<sup>9</sup> [Report of the Secretary General on Migration](#), A/70/59.