



GFMD Meeting on the Contribution of Migrant Associations to Development

Morocco, 20-22 September 2011

Concept Paper and Preliminary Agenda

Background

The 2011 Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), chaired by the Swiss Government, has the flagship theme ***Taking action on Migration and Development – Coherence, Capacity and Cooperation***. While preserving the global nature of the Forum, the Chair is promoting the organisation of a series of smaller thematic meetings (workshops, seminars, etc.) around the world. These meetings are dedicated to focused and action-oriented debate, and aim at engaging as wide a range of governments across regions, as well as other relevant GFMD stakeholders when possible. The Chair intends to maintain the global, voluntary and state-led character of the process, involving governments in all regions, as well as other GFMD stakeholders, including the Global Migration Group (GMG), civil society and the private sector.

In this context, the GFMD, together with the governments of Morocco and France, and the inter-regional forum *Dialogue on Mediterranean Transit Migration (MTM)*, are organising a meeting in Morocco, Taroudant (High-Atlas), 19-22 September 2011. The meeting falls under Cluster III of the GFMD 2011 Thematic Programme, which is concerned with 'tools for evidence-based migration and development policies' and will highlight the '**Contribution of Migrant Associations to Development**'.

Cluster III aims at sharpening the focus on planning tools required to promote evidence-based migration and development policies, responding to a need to assess the impact of migration and development policies and to support capacity-building. The migration-development nexus being a relatively recent area of international focus, experiences have to be assessed, indicators of success agreed, and key factors leading to successful initiatives identified. This meeting contributes to the identification of such factors through peer exchanges and discussions on worst and best practices concerning cooperation between migrant associations and governments in the area of migration and development. In addition, favourable circumstances and supportive framework conditions would be identified, partly through a case-study approach.

More specifically, the **objective of the event is to assess the results of selected case studies, analyse the functioning of inter-linkages between migrant organisations and governments/local**

authorities, and identify more generic key factors impacting on the success of migrant associations' contributions to development.

The issues at hand are addressed in a two-fold manner:

1. Case studies on existing initiatives, with a particular focus on the project *Co-développement rural intégré dans l'Atlas marocain (CORIAM)*, including field visits to locations of activity implementation; and
2. In-depth plenary Discussions.

Moreover, in addition, an associated event concerned with Migration and Development activities implemented within the framework the MTM Dialogue will take place, allowing participants to benefit from the experiences gained through MTM endeavors in this thematic area.

Making use of the case studies as a frame of reference, in combination with the concrete experiences of participants, the meeting will focus on the following overarching issues, applying a global perspective:

- What are the key elements of an evidence-based approach?
- What are the key criteria of success when assessing migrant associations' contributions to development and more generally migration and development initiatives/policies?
- How to ensure that the results of such assessments feed into a knowledgebase upon which further initiatives can be developed, promoting an evidence-based approach?
- How can an evidence-based approach to the development and implementation of migration and development initiatives/policies be promoted? What are the factors impeding and facilitating such an approach?
- To which extend and under which conditions does cooperation between migrant organisations and government and private sector play a key role to ensure successful initiatives?
- What are keys factors impacting on the final success of an initiative, with a particular emphasis on:
 - The role of individuals;
 - The role of civil society;
 - The role of local authorities;
 - The role of governments;
 - The role of private sector;
 - The role of external, cross-border issues (economy, environmental factors etc.).

Outcome

The meeting aims at 1) creating common understanding on what can be defined as a successful migrant association initiative when considering development impact; 2) identifying crucial determinants for good cooperation between migrant associations and other stakeholders; and 3)

stressing key factor of success for such Migration and Development initiatives for the purpose of development.

Moreover, the findings of this thematic meeting will feed directly into the process of elaborating recommendations of the **GFMD 2011 Concluding Debate** in Geneva on December 1-2 2011.

Meeting Format

The meeting is encompassed of two main components: field visits and plenary sessions. The field visits offer a case study approach to concrete initiatives being undertaken. The plenary sessions provide thematic preparation for the field visits, as well constitute a platform where findings and discussions from the field can be further elaborated, serving as a basis for the development of the overall meeting conclusions.

Target Audience

As the meeting approaches the issues at hand from a practical angle, with a combination of local and global perspectives, participants should primarily be practitioners in the area of migration and development. Participants should be prepared to travel within the Taroudant region as the various meeting components take place at different locations, including remote villages in the Atlas Mountains. Invitees represent a cross-regional selection and include governmental officials (MTM States and others), migrant organisations, and other relevant inter-regional actors.

Registration and Contact

Our implementing partner, ICMPD through its MTM Secretariat, will shortly provide invitees with all documents required for registration. For any queries at this stage, please contact Ms. Kathrin Markovsky at the MTM Secretariat at +43 1 504 46 77 2392 or mtm-dialogue@icmpd.org.

Preliminary Agenda

Monday, 19 September 2011	
<i>Day and evening</i>	Arrival of delegates
	Overnight in Taroudant
Tuesday, 20 September 2011	
<i>Morning</i>	Registration of delegates
ASSOCIATED EVENT: MTM Migration and Development Activities	
<i>Morning</i>	'Linking Emigrant Communities for More Development' – Launching of selected 2011-2013 activities

MAIN EVENT: GFMD Expert Meeting: Contribution of Migrant Associations to Development	
<i>Afternoon</i>	Lunch at the hotel
	Official opening in the premises of the Governor of Taroudant
	Plenary session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Brief introduction of participants – Presentation of the Moroccan approach to migration and development, INDH, with a particular focus on the region of Taroudant – Presentation of activities and projects of Moroccan and foreign NGOs/migrant associations, considering their experience and practices in the field of Migration and Development
<i>Evening</i>	Official dinner hosted by the Governor of Taroudant
	Overnight in Taroudant
Wednesday, 21 September 2011	
<i>Morning</i>	Division of delegates according to working groups and departure to villages for the purpose of observing the implementation of concrete initiatives
	Observation, facilitated by written observation guides, of concrete initiatives being implemented in local villages
<i>Afternoon</i>	Lunch in villages
	Discussion on observations in respective working groups. Discussions are led by rapporteurs, who are supported by pre-prepared discussion guides
	Departure to Taliouine
<i>Evening</i>	Dinner and cultural programme at the hotel
	Overnight in Taliouine
Thursday, 22 September 2011	
<i>Morning</i>	Plenary Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Wrap-up by working groups. Group findings presented by rapporteurs
<i>Afternoon</i>	Lunch in Taliouine
	Continuation of plenary session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Assessment of the functioning of the cooperation between migrant organisations and governments/local authorities, including identification of key factors of success
<i>Evening</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Option 1: Departure to Agadir Airport – Option 2: Departure to Taroudant → Overnight in Taroudant
Friday, 23 September 2011	
<i>Day</i>	Departure from Taroudant to Agadir Airport of remaining delegates