

# CALL TO LOCAL ACTION ON MIGRATION:

## Cities Working Together for Migrants and Refugees

### JOIN THIS MOVEMENT NOW AND HELP ACCELERATE ACTION ON MIGRATION LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY

#### WHY A CALL TO ACTION?

To improve the lived experience of migrants and refugees that move to cities. To demonstrate the key role that mayors and city leaders play in the implementation of both Compacts. To set the bar high and incentivize bolder, faster steps among the international community. To catalyze new partnerships between cities, humanitarian and developing actors, national governments, and the private sector.

With the adoption of the **Global Compact on Migration (GCM)** and **Global Compact on Refugees (GCR)** in December 2018, 60 mayors and city leaders adopted the Marrakesh Declaration calling for the full and formal recognition of the role of local authorities in the implementation, follow-up, and review of both Compacts. The importance and centrality of cities is starting to be incorporated into international instruments and agendas, including state-led processes like the 2019 Global Refugee Forum in Geneva and the 2020 Global Forum on Migration and Development in Quito. Cities are effectively gaining seats at the international policy-making table, but it's now time to turn commitments into concrete action.

As a city leader at the forefront of migrant and refugee challenges and opportunities, help ensure that Global Compact goals are met by pledging to implement innovative, inclusive policies and programs to welcome, integrate, and protect migrants and refugees at the local level. Take part in a global movement that will catalyze bolder, smarter global action on migration, refugee protection, and inclusion, a movement that will unlock the economic, social and cultural potential of newcomers and the communities that host them.

## WHAT DOES THE CALL TO ACTION ENTAIL?

Pledge to implement policies and programs towards (any of) the following action areas:

### Action Area 1 – Migration Governance

Improve cities' internal, vertical and international migration governance. This includes inclusive decision-making, empowered migrants and refugees, and integrated planning across departments, sectors, and levels of government.

### Action Area 2 – Economic Opportunity

Promote inclusive growth and the economic integration of migrants and refugees so they can thrive in their host communities and or contribute to the development of their origin cities.

### Action Area 3 – Climate Resilience

Increase cities' resilience to the impacts of climate change and disasters, which disproportionately affect vulnerable migrants and refugees and cause further displacement.

### Action Area 4 – Access to Essential Services

Provide migrants and refugees with affordable housing, non-discriminatory access to quality education and health care health services, among other City services regardless of legal status.

### Action Area 5 – Inclusion and Social Cohesion

Ensure the participation of migrants and refugees in the political, social, and cultural life of the city. Prevent and combat xenophobia, stereotypes, and misinformation.

### Action Area 6 – Vulnerable Groups

Address and reduce the vulnerabilities of the most at-risk groups of migrants and refugees, including women and children, safeguarding their human rights and protecting them against exploitation.

## WHY ENGAGE IN THIS COLLECTIVE PROCESS?

By mobilizing local actions across cities in the same areas of work, the Call to Action will lead to global impact.

- You are already taking action locally.
- Your local successes can contribute to better global governance.
- Your demonstrated commitment can open new spaces for cities to influence international policy deliberations.
- Global influence can generate benefits locally (unlock funding, improve practices and capacity).
- You are not alone in taking action. This is a multi-stakeholder effort and we will connect you to the partners you need to accelerate your efforts.

## WHAT IS THE MAYORS MECHANISM?

The Mayors Mechanism is a partnership between United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), The Mayors Migration Council (MMC), and The International Organization for Migration (IOM) to help cities participate in and inform state-led multilateral processes on migration, such as the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

The Mayors Mechanism will elevate your pledges to the international community, connect you with financial and technical partners, and facilitate local-national dialogue and support. It will also ensure that pledges and updates on their implementation are presented in the follow-up and review processes of the Global Compacts, including the 2022 International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) and the 2023 Global Refugee Forum (GRF), as well as high-level midterm review meetings, and relevant support platforms.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE?

To register a pledge, please contact us at [mayorsmechanism@gmail.com](mailto:mayorsmechanism@gmail.com) and we'll provide more information and support.