



# Youth Forum

at the XII GFMD Summit  
19 and 20 January 2020 in Quito, Ecuador







## **Migration is a defining feature of the 21st century.**

Migrants are 3% of the world population and produce 9% of world GDP. If migration is poorly managed, migrants can be put at risk, communities can come under strain, and we fall behind on achieving the SDGs.

This is why the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) - the first global agreement to tackle migration flows through international cooperation - is essential. As a part of the implementation, follow up and review process for the GCM, key actions will be taken at this year's Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) in Quito, Ecuador.

## **32% of migrants are youth. As such, we need to be present. Our voices must be heard.**

50 young grassroots activists and experts in migration will come together to discuss these key topics at our second annual Youth Forum on the 19th and 20th of January. We received official recognition from the Chair of the GFMD, and we will host the Forum at the conference center where the Summit will be held.

The UNMGCY Youth Forum is supported by IOM and UNICEF. We have an established direct link to the GFMD Civil Society Day (CSD) mechanism, and will have 7 youth rapporteurs, through which youth voices will be inputting directly into the GFMD Civil Society discussion and the Summit.

We will be discussing key challenges and opportunities regarding migration and development. We will collect data on relevant youth-led action and solutions around the world. We will connect young people and create a network to accelerate the implementation of the GCM. We want to engage the GFMD decision-making process through meaningful participation from youth participants.

1

**Engage us.** Give us a space at the decision-making table. Are you organizing a side event? Are you planning a roundtable? Make sure youth are represented. We are happy to help with identifying youth candidates to join. Can you bring youth in your delegation - whether you are engaged in government, civil society, business, or mayoral mechanism?

2

**Invest in us.** Fund youth to the Youth Forum and GFMD. Can you fund a participant from your country, region or thematic area? From a low-income background/country? From your own organization, or as part of your government delegation?

3

**Count us in.** Are you preparing a dataset, report, speech, or intervention for the GFMD? Include youth priorities and perspectives. We will have a report after the Youth Forum, collecting inputs from youth on all key topics and roundtables of the GFMD. Include us in your key messages.

### **Our challenge to the world at the 2018 Youth Forum:**

**Engage us. Invest in us. And count us in.**

**Will you support our fight to create the future we want?**

Please contact Ms. Marta Verani, the Youth Forum Chair, at [marta.verani@unmgcy.org](mailto:marta.verani@unmgcy.org) if you have any questions.





**UN Major Group for Children and Youth**  
the space for children and youth in the United Nations



## GFMD Youth Forum Programme

January 2020, Quito

*This is the draft programme of the Youth Forum, which will be held as an official side event to the 2019 GFMD Summit in Quito. The Youth Forum will focus on gathering youth perspectives in key thematic areas and from different regions, focusing on priorities for youth and children, and with attention to cross-cutting issues including gender, ethnicity, LGBTQ+, and disabilities. The Forum will also identify action-oriented solutions coupled with already existing successful initiatives addressing these issues, which can be suggested for replicating and scaling through partnerships with governments, civil society, and other stakeholders. We have a direct link to the Civil Society mechanisms, and the outcomes of the Forum will be presented directly to the GFMD through MGCY representation including during the Civil Society Day and the Common Space.*

### DAY 1

Time	Event	Title / details
9:00 - 9:30 am	Registration	
9:30 - 10:30 am	Opening Ceremony	Cultural performance High level speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Representative of Chair of the GFMD Summit (TBC)</li> <li>● UN MGCY Global Focal Point for Migration</li> <li>● IOM speaker</li> <li>● UNICEF speaker</li> <li>● Other youth speaker</li> </ul>
10:30 - 10:45	Coffee Break	
<p><b>Thematic Roundtables Round 1:</b> These roundtables will focus on the main priority themes identified in last year's Youth Forum. Participants will discuss youth priorities and policy recommendations on the issues, as well as actions on the ground that deliver on these priorities, including challenges and best practices, and support needed to scale / replicate.</p>		
10:45 - 13:00	Thematic Roundtable 1	Labour and Decent Jobs

	Thematic Roundtable 2	Education and recognition of skills
	Thematic Roundtable 3	Drivers of migration: forced x voluntary
	Thematic Roundtable 4	Climate Change and Migration
	Thematic Roundtable 5	Human Trafficking and Child Detention
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 - 15:00	Film Screening (TBD)	
<p><b>Skills blast workshops:</b> The skills blasts workshops will focus on building capacity on key components needed for effective action on issues related to migration and development, the GCM, and youth advocacy. They will be delivered by leading experts on the topics and will build capacity in participants to continue youth-led action at the local, national, and regional level after the Youth Forum and GFMD Summit.</p>		
15:15 - 17:15	Skill Blast Workshop 1	Planning and Implementing an Advocacy Strategy (TBC)
	Skill Blast Workshop 2	Linking and scaling grassroots efforts to UN Youth Strategy, and implementation of 2030 Agenda and GCM (TBC)
	Skill Blast Workshop 3	Youth Leadership Development in your community (TBC)
17:15 - 17:30	Coffee Break	
17:30 - 18:00	Reporting back and briefing	
20:00 - 22:00	Informal networking	In central location TBD

## DAY 2

Time	Event	Title / details
9:00 - 9:15	Registration for second day	All participants must register for the second day of activities
<p><b>Thematic Workshops Round 2:</b> These workshops will focus on the main themes featured in the GFMD programme (including the Common Space and the Civil Society days). Participants will build upon the work from the previous workshops to discuss priorities and policy suggestions, present current projects on the ground that deliver on these priorities, share challenges and best practices, and identify the support needed to scale / replicate.</p>		
9:15 - 12:00	Thematic Roundtable 1	Providing regular pathways from crisis to safety with attention to mixed migration flows
	Thematic Roundtable 2	Shaping public narratives on migrations and migrants
	Thematic Roundtable 2	Supporting arrival locations (cities, ports, nations) and sending places (including rural areas)
	Thematic Roundtable 4	Facilitating social and economic inclusion of migrants
10:30 - 10:45	Coffee Break	
12:00 - 13:00	Networking Fair	Fair style space to present initiatives and network
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch Break	
<p><b>Regional Roundtable Round 1:</b> During these roundtables participants will discuss the main issues affecting the region and what needs to be addressed. They will present and select already existing effective youth-led solutions and propose ways to replicate / scale / overcome challenges, with a focus on partnerships and thus including action points for other stakeholders including governments. In the middle there will be a 30 minutes slot in which participants will mix between regions in order to discuss cross-regional issues (including South America to North America, MENA and Africa to Europe, Asia to MENA, Venezuelan Diaspora). In the last part of the roundtable they will work on a concrete action plan to spur and scale youth-led actions in the region.</p>		
14:00 - 16:30	Regional Roundtable 1	Latin America and Caribbean
	Regional Roundtable 2	North America



	Regional Roundtable 3	Asia and Pacific
	Regional Roundtable 4	Europe
	Regional Roundtable 5	MENA
	Regional Roundtable 6	Africa
16:30 - 16:45	Coffee Break	
16:45 - 17:30	Panel Discussion on Youth perspectives on key GFMD Topics	Four youth rapporteurs will be presenting the day's discussion from the Thematic and Regional Roundtables. Representatives of all GFMD delegations and mechanisms will also be invited to attend.
17:30 - 18:00	Closing Ceremony	Signing of outcome document: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Youth Forum Chair</li> <li>● Civil society mechanism speaker</li> <li>● UN agency speaker</li> <li>● Cultural performance</li> </ul>

For any questions, please contact the Youth Forum and GFMD Focal Point, Ms. Marta Verani, at [marta.verani@unmgcy.org](mailto:marta.verani@unmgcy.org).