



Sharing Perspectives, Bridging Realities: The Role of Culture and Narratives for the Global Governance of Migration

Opening Panel

CICG, Geneva, Salle D (Amphitheatre)

23 January 2024 - 11:30-12:30

The programme of the GFMD France 2022-2023 Chair '[From environmental concerns to cultural aspects of migration](#)' has put a spotlight on the impact of climate change on human mobility and the key role of culture and narratives around migration for policy making and for the global governance of migration. The aim of this opening panel is to set the stage for dynamic and insightful discussions right at the beginning of the Summit, unravelling the multifaceted ways in which cultural factors, discourse and human mobility influence one another and can contribute to sustainable development.

The 14th Summit to be held in Geneva on 23-25 January 2024 presents a unique opportunity to share knowledge in this field through the lens of eminent speakers from across the world. It provides an overview on recent reflections, studies, reports and projects by the Organization of African Caribbean Pacific States (OACPS), IOM, the GFMD Ad Hoc Working Group on Public Narratives on Migration, the governments of Ecuador, Canada and civil society.

Objective

- Launch the summit with a fresh, inspirational approach to infuse Summit discussions.
- Promote and foster a stronger cultural dimension within GFMD discussions.
- Bring to the fore initiatives that provide insights on arts, culture, cultural discourse and communication approaches relevant for policy making on migration.
- Help set the frame for other discussions during the Summit.

Expected Outcomes

- ✓ Increased awareness of the role of culture to improve the dialogue on migration and development.
- ✓ Enhanced knowledge base on recent areas of development in related fields.
- ✓ Broadened perspectives on possible areas for engagement and partnerships in the field of migration and development.

Agenda

11:35-11:40 **Welcome and Introduction**

Moderator: Bram Frouws, Director Mixed Migration Centre (MMC)

11:40 -12:30 **Sharing perspectives, bridging realities: how do culture and narratives on migration play a role in migration governance**

- Hon. Dr. Abike Dabiri-Erewa, Chair/CEO of NiDCOM and OACPS Champion for Diaspora in 2022.
- Alejandro Dávalos, Vice-Minister for Human Mobility, Government of Ecuador
- Stephanie Leung, Director, International Affairs Branch, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, Government of Canada
- Eva Akerman-Borje, Director, Department of Policy and Research, International Organization for Migrations (IOM - UN Migration)
- Stella Opoku-Owusu, Director of African Foundation for Development (AFFORD)