

# Forum Mondial sur la Migration et le Développement

Genève · 23-25 janvier 2024

## 14<sup>th</sup> GFMD Summit

PROGRAMME OF SIDE EVENTS

# 1. The workforce for the future: international skills partnerships for the green and just transition

ORGANIZERS: ENABEL / IOM

**Brief Description:** Presentation The transition to a low carbon emissions economy is a global task of unprecedented scale and speed, still only in its early stages. The scale, pace, and global simultaneity of the green transition present both considerable opportunities and immense challenges. Few governments' plans for attaining net zero carbon emissions incorporate skills in sufficient depth. Very few have begun to consider the potential of, or need for, green-skilled labor mobility.

Filling skills gaps domestically for some countries of destination is likely to be challenging. Partly because many of the jobs required – such as in solar panel installation, or insulation retrofitting – may be unattractive to nationals. More importantly, demographic shifts due to ageing populations will see increased retirements from existing workforces and smaller numbers entering key sectors at a crucial time. On the other hand, in some countries of origin, a lack of trainers and a lack of investment in the systems necessary for training green-skilled workers will likely result in a scaling up of skills development too slowly to meet transition needs.

In this context, recent tools and frameworks from ENABEL, IOM, IOE, CGD, OECD and others have highlighted the potential for migrant workers to contribute to the green and just transition. By prioritizing green skill anticipation, recognition, development and transfer it is possible to create a global workforce for the future. This hybrid side event will highlight innovative interventions, tools, and frameworks to address the skill challenge and boost the green transition in both countries of origin as well as destination.

[LINKS: CONCEPT NOTE & AGENDA](#)

## 2. A Region on the Move: Lessons learned from research on migration and mobility in the Horn of Africa

ORGANIZERS: EU

**Brief Description:** From 2016-2023, the Research and Evidence Facility, funded by the European Union's Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF), carried out extensive research on migration and mobility dynamics within and from the greater Horn of Africa Region. While disproportionate attention is often placed on long-distance human mobility between continents, far more movement takes place across shorter distances, within countries and regions of origin. REF research has centred on three key themes: Livelihoods and Mobility, Climate Mobility and Conflict Mobility, and employed more than 70 researchers living and working in the region. We have worked closely with EU country delegations, donors, UN agencies, NGOs, government bodies, and civil society, as well as the regional Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) to generate actionable recommendations with respect to migration and mobility. In this side event, we discuss the implications of our research findings for developing more mobility-sensitive legal and policy frameworks. Key recommendations aim to improve the protection of people on the move, to ensure that decisions about movement are able to be made in conditions of safety and positive choice, and to help maximise the benefits of mobility.

Our panel will feature a short animated film, followed by four short presentations focusing on different aspects of our research, with emphasis on the recommendations that emerge from it. Two of our presenters will be from the Horn of Africa region (Ethiopia and Uganda), and will discuss their research on livelihoods and mobility, borderlands, and urbanisation with a particular emphasis on youth mobility. REF core team members will discuss the learning that has taken place across the more than 30 research projects that the consortium has conducted since its inception, and the implications for development and migration management policy.

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### 3. Multi-stakeholder partnerships to uphold rights of migrant workers and support gender-sensitive migration policies

ORGANIZERS: Government of UAE, ICMC

**Brief Description:** A multistakeholder panel discussion focusing on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Global Compact on Migration, with a focus on migrant workers rights, gender sensitive policies, and relevant partnerships in upholding and realising these goals. The panel will address in particular SDG 8.5, 8.8 and 17, in addition to the GCM Objectives 5, 6, 7 and 23. Leveraging the diverse GFMD community and utilising a human-centered approach, the panel seeks to achieve a multitude of perceptions with regards to enhancing governance of labour mobility, through the exchange of knowledge and best practices, not only from a Governmental point of view, rather a comprehensive outlook including on ground actors such as civil society and various regional consultative processes.

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## 4. Collective story-telling: women, youth & diaspora engagement

ORGANIZERS: Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic, ICMPD, MYCP

**Brief Description:** 135. This is the number of years needed to bridge the gender gap. Fresh ideas in this regard are urgently required to drive change. Specific attention should be given to empowering young diaspora women who represent the future of our global societies.

This side-event will feature young diaspora women innovating and implementing transformative solutions. Placing the spotlight on young women in the diaspora is vital to enhance awareness of their impact in the diaspora-development ecosystem, as this is under-documented. In this field like in many spheres of life, persisting patriarchal cultures and practices, vulnerabilities in social, political, and economic systems, stereotypes, and discriminations lead to situations where (young) women's interests and perspectives are neglected. This perpetuates gender inequalities and impedes the development potential of women, as well as their civic and political engagement.

With a keen awareness of this global context, as well as its regional context in which intersecting historic and cultural elements have limited women's participation, the Kyrgyz Republic proposes this side event as a platform for the voices of young women diaspora leaders. The side event will showcase dedicated support programs as well as various government-led efforts in this field. In order to structure the discussion, the speakers and audience will be invited to reflect on the so-called three "R" approach; rights, representation, and resources to foster gender equality in the diaspora-development ecosystem.

The side-event will result in a list of actionable insights that will contribute to the Government Roundtable 3 on "Diasporas as actors of economic, social and cultural development" co-chaired by Mexico and Moldova, in the framework of which unlocking the potential of women and youth in the diaspora is a transversal theme.

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## 5. Co-ordinating coherent migration data collection across Africa

ORGANIZERS: Statistics Sweden, Statistics Norway, OECD Development Centre

**Brief Description:** This GFMD side-event, hosted by the African Union Commission, the OECD Development Centre, Statistics Sweden and Statistics Norway aims to shed light on the challenges and progress made on the collection of migration-related data in Africa. It aims to demonstrate the level of coherence needed across national statistical offices and regional economic communities (RECs), the capacity required, and the task of juggling global standards against African realities on migration.

The event will draw on work and initiatives already undertaken by the organisers, but also from the lessons and experiences from African countries and RECs. The event will run for 1 hour to 1 hour 30 minutes, featuring a diverse panel of experts and stakeholders from international organisations, government agencies, and practical experiences.

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## 6. Leveraging the Impact of Migration on Sustainable Development through Innovative Multi-level Solutions

ORGANIZERS: UNDP, IOM, GFMD Mechanism

**Brief Description:** Whole-of-Government and Whole of Society approaches to migration governance, as called for by the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), are key for policy coherence across different levels and sectors of government, and to effectively leverage the potential of migration's impact on development.

The imperative of bringing together stakeholders from across levels, from local authorities – as 65% of SDG targets are linked to local government activity, to national and regional forums – such as Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs); as well as bringing together stakeholders from across sectors, including civil society, private sector and academia, is by now well-recognized.

Yet, how can multiple stakeholders further enhance policy coherence in a way that brings demonstrable benefits? What models of multi-level cooperation and coordination have proved to be successful, and why? What can we learn from innovative mechanisms implemented thus far? What can be scaled up?

Building on the most recent evidence available to date on how weaving migration across all levels of development planning and policy formulation can boost development for all; this side event will gather stakeholders from the Mayors Mechanism, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, IOM, UNDP, to present and reflect on the latest practices that effectively advance multi-level policy coherence.

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## 7. Avances Sobre Identificación y Búsqueda de Personas Migrantes Desaparecidas / Advances in the Identification and Search for Missing Migrant Persons

ORGANIZERS: Bloque Latinoamericano Sobre Migración Y Red Regional De Organizaciones Civiles Para Las Migraciones, Government of El Salvador, UN Working Group on Forced Disappearances, OHCHR

**Brief Description:** Identify progress in the implementation of Goal 8 of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Priority thematic table: Table 2: Rights and Migration.

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## 8. Changement Climatique, Droits Humains & Mobilités - Un dialogue pluripartite pour des solutions inclusives, durables et basées sur les droits humains

ORGANIZERS: ANVITA, SIF, CARE France, SCCF, MYCP

**Brief Description:** This event will focus on Climate and Mobility, in line with the summit's priority, and will focus on local/global multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable and inclusive solutions. To this end, the French organizations Anvita, CARE France, Secours Catholique-Caritas France and Secours Islamique France are mobilized alongside the HABITABLE research project, the Mayors and Youth Mechanisms (MYCP).

These exchanges will be nourished by the redefinition of the concept of habitability through the contribution of the HABITABLE project, which seeks to conceptualize the notion of social tipping points in a broader, interdisciplinary way.

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## 9. Diaspora Economic Potential for Sustainable Development: Proven Strategies, Best Practices and Results

ORGANIZERS: IOM, UNDP, IFAD, GFRDT, Government of Mexico

**Brief Description:** In order to enhance the capabilities of national and local governments to effectively engage and establish mechanisms for attracting diaspora financial resources and directing them towards sustainable and impactful investments, and contribute to sustainable development, a comprehensive set of guidelines is being produced by the United Nations Network on Migration (UNNM) workstream 14 on “Maximizing the economic contribution of remittances and diaspora to sustainable development”.

To discuss the provisional findings of the guidelines and create a specific space for exploring experiences of attractive diaspora financial resources for sustainable development, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) together with the Governments of Mexico and the Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism (GRFDT) aim to enrich the dialogue on this thematic area by organizing a focused discussion on “Diaspora Economic Potential for Sustainable Development: Proven Strategies, Best Practices and Results”

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## 10. Regular Pathways in the Age of Climate Change: Blending Policy, People, and Art

ORGANIZERS: PDD, Caritas France, GFMD Civil Society Mechanism

**Brief Description:** Every year, millions of lives and livelihoods are affected by the slow-onset impacts of climate change and environmental degradation, with many leaving their homes and others remaining trapped in areas at risk. Unless such population movements are orderly, safe, they can challenge human security and people's rights, and threaten sustainable development gains. As climate change continues to exacerbate the frequency and intensity of these processes, it influences the patterns of human mobility across the world. This raises a critical question: in what ways can policy and development adapt to the realities and migration aspirations of communities most affected by slow-onset climate change?

Delving into this challenge, the side event co-organised by PDD, Caritas France, the GFMD Civil Society Mechanisms, CMDP and sponsored by Fiji, Switzerland and the EU explores the multifaceted relationships between migration and development against the backdrop of slow-onset climate change processes. Anchored in the overarching objective of enhancing the availability and flexibility of regular pathways, the event traces the continuum of policy development, from inception to evaluation. A diverse panel will discuss strategies for effective policymaking and stakeholder engagement while recognizing the agency and migration aspirations of communities most affected by climate change.

Central to the discussion is the progression of policy: from data-informed initiation to practical implementation and evaluation. The emphasis will be on understanding the roles of various stakeholders in these stages. Simultaneously, it highlights the challenges faced by communities directly impacted by climate change, underscoring the imperative that policies be crafted in response to their lived realities and needs.

Artistic elements, enriched by real stories from community voices, further contribute to the policy discourse, presenting more holistic understandings of the topic. The art components include Mary Mattingly's *Ebb of a Spring Tide* and *PLATFORM - That Which to Come is Just a Promise*, and will contextualize migration narratives, providing attendees with alternative perspectives for understanding and engaging the policy challenges by encouraging self-reflection and offering innovative solutions.

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## 11. Gender-responsive migration narratives: GenMig insights on the centrality of migrants' voices

ORGANIZERS: IOM

**Brief Description:** This side-event will focus on the centrality of migrants' voices for gender-responsive migration narratives, thus contributing to GFMD's overarching theme and GFMD 2022-2023 priorities, especially priority no 5, bringing a gender dimension to the issue. Acknowledging the spread of mis- and disinformation on migration and migrants, including gendered stereotypes on migrants, the side-event will discuss avenues for leveraging migrants' voices, including the diaspora, to challenge unbalanced and gender-stereotyped narratives. Special consideration will also be given to digital solutions that can be leveraged in this view, as well as to empower transnational migrant families and communities, illustrate the gendered experiences of migration to better inform migration practices and policy, and showcase the positive benefits of migration, including the linkages between migration and development.

The side-event is organized against the background of IOM's initiative, the Gender and Migration Research Policy Action Lab (GenMig), which gathers a global partner network committed to gender equality in migration. The side-event thus reflects GenMig diversity of partners, as well as GFMD's multi-stakeholder and partnership approach. It gathers partners and speakers from diverse institutions, from Member States and international organizations to civil society, the private sector and youth. Partners and speakers furthermore align with GFMD's global scope, with geographic representation from Africa, Europe, North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, South Asia and South-East Asia.

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## 12. Launching the Global Migration Narratives Outlook: Understanding and Improving Global Public Narratives on Migration

ORGANIZERS: Governments of Canada and Philippines

**Brief Description:** Migration is a defining feature of the world today, making it a prominent and important political issue locally, nationally, and internationally. When managed well, migration has the potential to positively impact both migrants and their countries of origin, transit, and destination.

Despite increased evidence about the positive impacts of migration, there is a compelling need for evidence-based communication on migration in order for balanced narratives to resonate with the general public, as well as to combat misinformation on migration. The aim to enhance perceptions based on narratives, culture, emotion, and rational discourse is also aligned with the objectives of the Global Compact for Migration. Recognizing the importance of improving migration narratives, the GFMD French Chair has identified the topic as a priority of its Chairmanship.

In line with this, the Roundtable 5 Co-Chairs, Canada and the Philippines, in partnership with the ICMPD, propose a side event to launch the Global Migration Narratives Outlook during the 14th GFMD Summit. The Outlook offers a comprehensive snapshot in time of the current landscape of migration narratives across the world, highlighting what individuals across the world think about immigration, why they think what they do, and what communication strategies can have an impact on the way they think. The Outlook will be an important tool to disseminate information to a broad and diverse audience on the impacts of migration narratives as well as actions that can be taken to support more balanced local, national, regional and international narratives.

The side event will be an interactive, multi-stakeholder 70-minute panel to launch the Outlook. The event will bring stakeholders together to highlight global trends in attitudes toward migration, explore why people think what they do, and identify concrete initiatives that can have a positive impact on public attitudes towards migration.

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## 13. Supporting Actions to Promote Solutions to Internal Displacement in a Changing Climate: A Conversation with Development Actors

ORGANIZERS: IDMC, UNDP, ADB, Government of Fiji

**Brief Description:** Data and evidence are a critical tool to raise attention and guide action to address and reduce internal displacement and its impacts in the context of climate change and disasters. Even though we now have more data, evidence and tools to better understand the scale, patterns, and impacts of disaster and climate-related displacement, significant gaps still persist in timely, accurate and disaggregated data on the phenomenon. This limits our understanding of the needs of those displaced, and how to assist them in re-establishing their lives and livelihoods through durable solutions. It also impedes our ability to assess the full spectrum of economic and non-economic costs of displacement on individuals, communities and societies, to estimate future displacement risk and to protect people's rights and development gains through tailored policies and interventions.

Filling these data gaps is also an important step toward addressing displacement as part of efforts to implement the Paris Agreement and in particular the work done to avert, minimise and address loss and damage, the Sustainable Development Goals, the Action Agenda on Internal Displacement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Addressing the long-term and collective impacts of displacement and ensuring that displaced people and affected communities are not "left behind" in efforts to achieve the SDGs and provide adequate climate finance, require a strong involvement of development actors.

This side event proposes to engage in an interactive conversation with development actors to share their perspective and experience in supporting efforts to develop evidence-based interventions to address displacement in the context of climate change and disasters. The panel will also discuss the type of data and tools needed to measure the development impact of displacement, design and implement durable solutions, and monitor progress or pathways toward such solutions.

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## 14. Supporting Maximizing the social and economic opportunities of labour mobility for a just transition

ORGANIZERS: Government of Switzerland, ILO, GFMD Business Mechanism

**Brief Description:** A Just Transition means greening the economy in a way that is fair and inclusive for everyone concerned, creating decent work opportunities and leaving no one behind.

The Just transition could potentially create 24 million jobs by 2030, but it's dependent on workforce access to training and supportive policies. Many countries have yet to align their skill systems with green ambitions, creating a shortage of appropriately skilled workers. Migrant workers can play a significant role in this transition, but they face challenges in accessing training and developing skills for new opportunities. Ensuring that new green jobs are decent and that migrant workers have equal access to them is crucial.

This side event, co-organized by Switzerland, the ILO, and the GFMD Business Mechanism, aims to explore the complexities of a just transition with a focus on migration dynamics. It highlights the interconnected nature of challenges and opportunities within this transformative journey, emphasizing the pivotal role of GFMD stakeholders, in addressing these dynamics positively and addressing social protection issues.

The event aims to create a platform for in-depth discussions and collaborative efforts to address the complexities of a just transition positively, recognizing the potential of migrant workers and the role of various stakeholders in building a more equitable and sustainable future for all. It seeks to highlight promising practices in two areas:

**Access to Green Job Opportunities through Upskilling / Skills Development:** Sustainable enterprises and governments can provide training and upskilling programs to facilitate the transition of migrant workers into green and decent jobs.

**Decent work for migrants as part of the just transition:** Ensuring migrant workers' labor rights are on par with those of nationals in the country of destination is essential to protect their dignity. Governments and businesses must work together to enforce labor rights, provide social protection, and ensure fair recruitment and employment practices.

[LINK: AGENDA](#)

## **15. Meeting between the Sahel and northern equatorial Africa - The challenges of the nexus: cross-border transhumance, survival of protected areas, natural resources, and human lives, development, security and peace**

ORGANIZERS: CBPF

**Brief Description:** The aim of this side event is to present the results of the implementation of the Ndjamen Declaration on peaceful transhumance between the Sahel and northern equatorial Africa. The Event will make the case for acceleration of the implementation of investment plans in developed countries as part of the implementation of the N'Djamena Declaration on the need to shape the framework of cross-border collaboration, regional transhumance dynamics and settlement - Reducing the gap between climate change, migration, conservation, peace, security and development.

The French and Gabonese Republics Facilitation of the CBFP will secure speakers and partners that will inform the global Forum with insights and recommendations from across the N'Djamena Declaration implementation. The speakers will bring together representatives from various Stakeholders Groups of the N'Djamena Declaration 2019

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## 16. Committed Diasporas: Catalysts for Development - Perspectives and initiatives from North and West Africa

ORGANIZERS: Government of Guinea, ENABEL, OECD Development Centre, AFFORD

**Brief Description:** This side event builds on past GFMD consultations in connection with round table 3 "Diasporas: actors in the economic, social and cultural development of regions". It aims to explore ways of optimising the contribution of diasporas to the development of countries of origin, highlighting effective practices of mobilisation and engagement at both national and regional levels.

The event will, which will take place in French, reflects the views of different stakeholders - institutional actors, civil society, the private sector and diaspora entrepreneurs. It will highlight the fact that while diasporas generally make a major contribution to the economic growth of their countries of origin and residence, they should no longer be considered solely in terms of their financial resources, but rather as genuine players in development. During this event, different approaches will be explored to optimise the contribution of diasporas:

1. Offering investment opportunities and business partnerships to diasporas, whether for solidarity or productive projects;
2. Supporting diaspora initiatives and investment ideas;
3. Providing support for the management of relations between countries of origin and their diasporas, thereby promoting better coordination and collaboration to maximise the impact of development efforts.

This event aims to encourage constructive dialogue between stakeholders and identify concrete actions to fully harness the potential of diasporas as drivers of regional economic, social and cultural development.

North and West Africa attract attention in terms of diaspora engagement thanks to their high concentration of investment initiatives, representing 33% of identified practices, and to the diversity of their engagement which extends beyond financial investments.

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## 17. How Civil Society is Shifting Migration Narrative

ORGANIZERS: GFMD Civil Society Mechanism

**Brief Description:** These narratives are at the heart of what we do in all areas of migration, yet migrants themselves rarely have an opportunity to shape those narratives. For professionals working in migration, and civil society working on the ground with migrants and refugees, it is imperative to recognise the impact our actions, words and images have on public perceptions about migration and their influence on the success of migration policies. For migrants, having their experiences and concerns heard and considered by the broader public and policymakers is central to advancing their broader human rights, participating in their host society, and tackling xenophobia.

The GFMD Civil Society Mechanism has been actively promoting more balanced narratives on migration and emphasising the critical role of civil society in addressing harmful narratives and stereotypes about migrant communities.

In line with this work, the GFMD Civil Society Mechanism, in collaboration with the government of the United States of America, the GFMD Working Group on Public Narratives on Migration and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development, proposes a side event on multi-dimensional and multi-stakeholder partnerships in balancing public perceptions about migration and migrants. The objective of the side event is to inspire reflection on the key ingredients for successful civil society partnerships in the context of promoting balanced narratives on migration. By combining the element of partnership with ethical storytelling, the side-event aims to highlight how actions and multi-stakeholder initiatives can be translated into words, images and actions that are true to migrants' stories and realities.

Format: Scene setting opening with back-to-back short interventions from civil society, government representatives, and ICMPD discussing successful migration partnerships. This will be followed by a 45-minute action-oriented panel on ethical storytelling strategies, communication, and migration policy.

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## 18. Retos y Avances para garantizar el acceso al derecho a la Identidad para las personas en condición de retorno/deportación (Challenges and Advances to guarantee access to the right to Identity for persons in condition of return/deportation)

ORGANIZERS: Bloque Latinoamericano sobre Migración

**Brief Description:** We currently participate in the UN Network (United Nations Migration Network) within the Working Group on Return and Reintegration through its member organizations participate the following: Poj Noj, in Guatemala, Comisión de Acción Social Menonita (CASM) of Honduras, Equipo de Estudios Comunitarios y Acción Psicosocial (ECAP) of Guatemala, Instituto para las Mujeres en la Migración (IMUMI) and Centro de Atención a la Familia Migrante Indígena (CAFAMI) of Mexico.

In order for this exchange to be nurtured, we consider it fundamental to have a dialogue with other organizations that develop accompaniment and advocacy work with the populations of deported and returned people. It is through the sum of work experiences between international agencies, governments and other actors that we can have a broader view of the issue and thus contribute from our experience and knowledge in the development of proposals that take up the most urgent elements in the region."

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## 19. Achieving Objective 19 of the Global Compact on Migration: How can partnerships with governments better support diaspora contributions sustainable development?

ORGANIZERS: ODI/GK Partners

**Brief Description:** A panel discussion with audience Q&A. The interactive format and proposed agenda will maximise the learnings and cross-stimulation amongst all speakers, and participants in the room.

This event aims to build momentum, share insights and spark new ideas on how to achieve Objective 19. Accordingly, the event has two key objectives. Firstly, it aims to shed light on the wide-ranging, positive contributions of the diaspora; drawing on new evidence, and the work of recent, exemplary initiatives on diaspora engagement. Secondly, it aims to consider policy options to achieving Objective 19. Expert speakers will reflect on the lessons learned, best practices and policy frameworks of national and international initiatives to date – and offer their recommendations on future policy.

We will hear from government representatives from Ghana and The Gambia, and leading, international actors on diaspora engagement, including the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and African Foundation for Development (AFFORD). The discussion will be aided by the ground-breaking analysis of two large-scale, global research projects on migration: MIGNEX and MIDEQ.

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## 20. Culture as a potent tool for reshaping narratives and driving positive change in the perception of population movement due to Climate Change: crossed perspectives and Good Practices

ORGANIZERS: OACPS

**Brief Description:** Culture, with its diverse manifestations, serves as a pivotal instrument for narrative transformation:

- Poetry, music, and literature have the capacity to challenge prevailing narratives. A prime example of this is the Hallyu phenomenon, where Korean soft power effectively harnessed cultural elements to reshape their narrative.
- Traditions, legends, and beliefs act as conduits for values, capable of reshaping perceptions to foster greater empathy and tolerance. Furthermore, they provide a voice and visibility for marginalized communities.
- Considering culture's potent role in disseminating knowledge—whether through museums, exhibitions, or educational programs—it becomes a conduit for imparting climate awareness content.
- Cultural dissemination transcends borders much like migration, making it a transnational force.
- Cultural practices often embody resilience and adaptation strategies. Drawing from indigenous knowledge systems and traditional practices informs climate narratives with practical solutions.

Three countries—Nigeria, Jamaica, and Fiji—each belonging to distinct geographic blocs, will share their past experiences, best practices, and planned initiatives related to culture as a tool for reshaping narratives.

Civil Society from the ACP (African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States) will actively participate in the roundtable discussions, providing additional insights and suggestions. (Je trouve que c'est bien de mettre ça car ça ouvre un peu à la Société Civile, ça donne un côté ouvert)

The resulting statement from the roundtable will be submitted to the Parliament members of the 79 Member States of the OACPS (Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States) for debate and integration into national strategic plans.

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## 21. Extending social protection to migrant workers in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries: Promising practices and avenues for reform

ORGANIZERS: ILO

**Brief Description:** The objectives of the side event are:

- to present and discuss the state of social protection for migrant workers in the GCC, in view of recently available evidence and assessments at country and regional level;
- to provide a forum to discuss ongoing reforms efforts in the region, share promising practices and highlight further opportunities to advance the agenda; and
- to engage destination and origin countries in a conversation about pathways for gradual extension of social security rights of migrant workers in the GCC and their portability in line with international standards, which allows to promote the economic, social, and cultural contributions of migrations.

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## 22. Transit Migration: impacts and policy implications for development

ORGANIZERS: OECD

**Brief Description:** Although central in migration realities, transit migration is often treated as a secondary issue. Transit migration is however arguably predominant and substantially different from both perspectives from countries of origin and destination, and the policy implications and solutions are therefore not clear-cut. Many migrants travel through corridors spanning several countries in their journey, and many migrants remain in the countries they cross for years or never make it to their planned destination at all.

This GFMD side-event, hosted by the OECD Development Centre and UNDP aims to shed light on the impact of transit migration on local economies and societies in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). It also aims to connect the growing policy relevance of transit migration in LMICs to GFMD discussions, including those on multi-level governance. Ultimately, the organisers will present a research agenda for the way forward.

The side-event will draw on experiences from different countries as well as a KNOMAD working paper on the policy implications of transit migration, based on qualitative interviews in four different transit countries from around the world.

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## 23. Eliminating gender-based violence as vital to migration governance for resilience and social development

ORGANIZERS: UN Women / Resignificas

**Brief Description:** Violence against women and girls is not only a grave violation of their rights but remains one of the biggest barriers to their full participation in society. Owing to deeply entrenched gender inequalities and multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, women, including migrant women, face an increased risk of violence, including sexual, physical, and emotional abuse, harmful practices such as female genital mutilation, early and child marriage, trafficking in persons, as well as various forms of exploitation. This risk of violence is higher still for migrant women with irregular migration status, not only due to their precarious migration status and higher likelihood of working in insecure and dangerous jobs, but also because they are less likely to report this violence to the authorities owing to a limited knowledge of their rights, language barriers, lack of evidence and fear of detention and deportation owing to their migration status. Migrant women and girls, particularly those without access to safe and regular migration pathways, may embark on perilous and dangerous journeys and face high risks of gender-based violence (GBV), trafficking, exploitation, injury and death.

Migration is most likely to empower women and girls when they can make informed choices, and when they have access to gender-responsive legal protections and access to services, including essential services for survivors. Eliminating violence against migrant women and girls is not only a human rights imperative but also key to ensuring their full and equal participation in society.

This side event will highlight the urgency of preventing GBV as part of effective migration governance and the importance of addressing the needs survivors of GBV when designing and implementing migration laws, policies and services. It will stress the importance of working with all relevant stakeholders to help tackle GBV against all migrant women and girls, irrespective of migration status, and put in place essential services for victims/survivors of GBV. It will also recognize the powerful agency and organizing done by women in migration to protect and defend their rights.

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