



Youth Leadership & Innovation Award for Migration Pitch Competition

25 January 2024 from 13:30 CET to 15:00 CET

Young people under the age of 30 make up 31% of international migrants, with, in 2020, 15% under the age of 20 (UN DESA Statistics, 2020). Young migrants have challenges and priorities specific to their age and need responsive policies reflective of this. Further, many young people are also experts and leaders working at the forefront of both migration issues as well as climate solutions in their home and host communities and thus should be included as critical stakeholders and partners in decision-making, design, and implementation of global efforts to proactively prepare and respond to continued and future mobility issues.

[The Migration Youth & Children Platform](#) has previously demonstrated the great potential impact of the Youth Innovation Award model - a global contest empowering young leaders to drive innovative solutions for migration challenges. The inaugural Youth Leadership and Innovation Award for Migration (YLIA) organised as part of youth engagement at the 2021 Global Forum for Migration and Development Summit, awarded cash prizes and mentorship support to three winning youth initiatives. More information on the success of the previous edition of the Youth Leadership & Innovation Award is presented in Annex 1.

Building on this success, MYCP, in partnership with the Migration Working Group at the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University, IOM, UNICEF, and with the support of the French Chairmanship of the GFMD, is hosting the 2nd edition of the Youth Innovation Award on Migration, focusing on innovative projects addressing issues directly related to the main GFMD priorities.

This competition aims to shift the conversation around migration on concrete and practical solutions and serves as a starting point for future partnerships between youth and relevant GFMD stakeholders. It is not only aligned with the GFMD objective to pose solutions to pressing issues around migration and development but also gives diverse youth the chance to contribute to this objective by presenting their projects.



YLIA Activities and Awards

The 2024 Youth Leadership and Innovation Award for Migration invited youth under 31 to submit innovative existing solutions that have been implemented with a concrete level of success or impact in the following categories:

- 1. Climate Mobility**
- 2. Social, Economic, and Cultural Contributions Of Diaspora**
- 3. Health & Safety: Migrants' Access To Basic Services**

From a competitive pool of 375 projects, the initiatives of six applicants have been selected for their scalability and promise. Each finalist has been paired with a mentor to improve, develop further, and prepare their initiatives for the Pitch Competition.

The six finalists of the Youth Leadership and Innovation Award will have the opportunity to present their initiatives in front of a multi-stakeholder jury and compete for the chance to win seed funding to scale and replicate their project.

Three winners will be selected, one for each YLIA Category, and they will receive a cash prize to support their initiatives. Furthermore, winners will participate in online capacity-building sessions and workshops provided by our partners and 1:1 mentoring to support the development and scale of their projects, including by Columbia University, IOM, UNICEF, ICMPD and IFMSA.

Objectives of YLIA

- Strengthen the capacities of young leaders to lead successful initiatives
- Elevate the voices of young leaders at the Global Migration Forum on Development, showcasing the potential of youth-led solutions to drive progress towards an inclusive and sustainable future.
- Provide cash prizes to escalate youth innovative initiatives working on climate mobility, diaspora contributions, and access to services.

Format and structure

The final pitch Ceremony is scheduled for 25 January 2024 from 13:30 CET to 15:00 CET. The session will be in person, live online streaming will be provided, and open to all GFMD public.

The six finalists of the Youth Leadership and Innovation Award will individually present and pitch their projects to the audience and a high-level multistakeholder panel of judges.

Each finalist will have five minutes to pitch their initiative. Every judge will score each participant directly after their pitch, taking into consideration the following criteria:



- The track record of impact in the chosen category from 0 to 5 points
- Potential for scaling, replication, and growth from 0 to 5 points
- Innovation, originality, and creativity from 0 to 5 points

Once all the pitches have been made, the judges will deliberate, count all the scores, and choose the 3 winners. The initiative with the highest score will be the first place winner. The other initiative from the same category won't be considered for the prize. The second-place position will be awarded to the second-ranking initiative from the second category, followed by the third-place position going to the highest-ranking initiative from the third category.

Logistics

Youth Leadership & Innovation Award ceremony

Location: CICG, Geneva, Amphitheatre D

Date and time: 25 January 2024, 13:30 - 15:00 CET

Interpretation: Simultaneous interpretation to English, French, and Spanish

Agenda

Youth Leadership & Innovation Award contest - Summit Day 3, 25 January 2024

Time	Event	Title/details
13:30-13:45	Opening Ceremony	Short presentation of the YLIA initiative by MYCP Presentation of the panel of High Level Judges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IOM - France - GFMD Civil Society Mechanism - GFMD Business Mechanism - GFMD Mayors Mechanism

Pitching Contest: *The 6 finalists of the Youth Leadership and Innovation Award will be competing in front of a multistakeholder jury. Each finalist will have 5 minutes to pitch their*



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<i>initiative.</i>		
13:45 - 14:30	Finalist 1 - Climate Mobility Category	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crispus Mwemaho and “Muhokya IDP camp livelihood project”
	Finalist 2 - Climate Mobility Category	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Careen Joel Mwakitalu and “No Taka Tanzania - Geospatial Data for Resilient Climate Mobility”
	Finalist 3 - Social, Economic, and Cultural Contributions of Diaspora Category	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abobakar Sediq Miakhel and “AILEMapp”
	Finalist 4 - Social, Economic, and Cultural Contributions of Diaspora Category	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jin Davod and “Peace Therapist”
	Finalist 5 - Health & Safety: Migrants’ Access to Basic Services Category	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wenddy Emilia Vera García and “Education in Emergencies”
	Finalist 6 - Health & Safety: Migrants’ Access to Basic Services Category	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kristine Petrosyan and “Legal culture Ngo”
14:30-14:40	Video message from on the big screen / counting scores and deliberation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migration Working Group from Columbia University (online)
14:40-14:55	Presentation of the 3 winners by a judge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remarks from the 3 winners (1-2 minutes each)
14:55 - 15:00	Closing Ceremony	Closing remarks by MYCP



Annex:

Impact and success of the 1st Youth Innovation Award:

The inaugural Youth Leadership and Innovation Award was granted to three organizations: *The Xenophobia Barometer* (1st place), *A Global Voice for Autism* (2nd place) and *The Association for the Integration of Women* (3rd place), representing three different regions. This prestigious award not only provided them with increased networking opportunities and heightened visibility but also fueled the expansion of their vital work and scaled their impact.

The *Xenophobia Barometer / El Barómetro de Xenofobia* (Colombia), winner of the 'Shaping Narratives' category and awarded the 1st place prize of \$15,000 USD, is a platform working to systematize and disseminate public information and social media public opinion analysis on migration communities in different cities in Colombia, with the mission of producing targeted recommendations and programmes to address xenophobia. Since receiving the award, they published the 'Anti-Xenophobia Toolkit', established partnerships with IOM and GIZ in expanding their operations to Ecuador, and have now further extended services to Chile and Peru.

A Global Voice for Autism (headquartered in the United States, with main activities in the Middle East), winner of the 'Leveraging Technologies to Support Migrants' category and awarded 2nd place prize of \$10,000 USD, works to equip refugee and conflict-affected communities with the skills to support the development and success of children on the autism spectrum and with developmental disabilities across their classrooms, homes and communities. After receiving the award, they enhanced and scaled their Include2020 mobile application with a specialist mobile application UX designer. The application now serves as a virtual center for educators, researchers, learners and inclusivity professionals to share best practices on inclusive education and also offers offline educational content access in English and Arabic. It then went on to be selected for the Social Innovation Challenge programme run by the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGI U), Verizon and Venturewell. As of 2021, they have served more than 16,000 children, parents and teachers across the world through their capacity-building support and advocacy programmes.

The Association for the Integration of Women (Modena, Italy), winner of the 'Skilling Pathways' category and the 3rd overall place prize of \$8,000 USD, operates programmes working to upskill and support migrant and refugee women in Italy through training and apprenticeship, community building and platforms to showcase their skills. Building on their flagship Culinary Training Programme, after receiving the award, AIW established partnerships with IOM and the Rotary Club Modena, launched a Skill Builders programme with volunteer women professionals, and formally opened their first brick-and-mortar restaurant 'Roots', staffed with graduates of their culinary programme from Ghana, Tunisia, Cameroon and Guinea. The



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restaurant not only provides employment but now houses the Culinary Training Programme full-time, and serves to showcase migrant women talent to the local community- recently patronised by Michelin representatives of Modena.