



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

2024 Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Side Event

Wednesday, 24 January 2024, 9.00 – 10.30 CET

The event will be held in person at the CICG (Geneva), Room E.

Concept note and agenda

BACKGROUND

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 Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, the Mayors Mechanism, IOM, UNDP, as well as the civil society to present and reflect on the latest practices that effectively advance multi-level policy coherence.

The side event will feature perspectives from:

1. **Member States:** on how to connect local and regional levels. As most international migration takes place within regions, how are regions leveraging RCPs to strengthen multi-level governance, as does, for instance, the Almaty Process.
2. **Local authorities:** on innovative mechanisms implemented that demonstrate whole-of-society approaches in practice, such as the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees.
3. **UN agencies:** on how joint programming underpinned by the GCM and its principles can unleash positive development outcomes, looking at UNCT capacity building efforts, and the IOM and UNDP “Making Migration Work for Sustainable Development (M4SD)” Joint Programme.
4. **Civil society and the private sector** on primary challenges, noteworthy best practices and innovative solutions, sharing insights to enhance multi-stakeholder cooperation and coordination.

OBJECTIVES

The event aims to provide a platform for sharing successful models, innovative mechanisms, and lessons learned in multi-level cooperation on migration policies. It encourages participants to exchange insights, experiences, and best practices to enhance understanding and cooperation among stakeholders. More specifically, it aims to:

1. **Identify key strategies for enhanced policy coherence:** Collaboratively develop strategies to improve policy coherence among diverse stakeholders, aiming to harness the potential of migration for sustainable development. Focus on identifying actionable steps and frameworks that align local, national, and international policies more effectively.
2. **Promote scalable solutions:** Explore mechanisms and approaches that exhibit potential for scalability and wider implementation. Encourage discussions on how successful models can be adapted, replicated, or scaled up to different contexts or regions, emphasizing the importance of scalable solutions in achieving broader positive impacts from migration on sustainable development.
3. **Promote innovation in multi-level solutions:** Encourage the exploration and discussion of cutting-edge, innovative approaches that leverage technology, collaborative frameworks, or unconventional strategies to address challenges in migration policies. Emphasize the identification and promotion of forward-thinking, creative solutions that have the potential to significantly enhance the impact of migration on sustainable development while ensuring inclusivity and ethical considerations.

FORMAT OF THE EVENT

This event is organized within the framework of the 14th GFMD Summit and is open to all GFMD stakeholders and observers, including Member States, local and regional governments, civil society, diaspora organizations, the private sector, youth, international organizations, experts, practitioners, as well as other institutional partners. The event will take place in person at the CICG (Geneva). Please note that the event will be held in English only (no interpretation available).

AGENDA

9:00 – 9:05 (5 min)	Welcome and opening remarks
9:05 – 9:20 (15 min)	Keynote For over 12 years, IOM and UNDP have worked together across levels of governance to integrate migration considerations into key policy areas or design new policies that aim to ensure inclusion for all. This presentation will summarize experiences and lessons learned from this work.
9:20 – 10:00 (40 min)	Panel discussion Moderated Davos-style panel featuring representatives from national and local government, private sector, civil society and youth.
10:00 – 10:25 (25 min)	Plenary discussion / Q&A
10:25 – 10:30 (5 min)	Closing remarks