Focused Input to the 2024 Thematic Review of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions

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The GFMD Focused Input to the 2024 Thematic Review of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) was coordinated by the **GFMD's Working Group (WG) on Sustainable Development and International Migration** co-chaired by France, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the GFMD Civil Society Mechanism. It was primarily drafted by the **GFMD 2030 Agenda Rapporteurs appointed by the GFMD 2022-2023 French Chair:** *Mr. Peter Justice Dery (Director responsible for the Environment Division at the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, Ghana), Ms. Roxanne Siual Blesam (Chief of Staff to the Vice President and Minister of Justice of Palau), Ms. Anna Calvete Moreno (Research, Migration and Monitoring Officer at United Cities and Local Governments on behalf of the GFMD Mayors Mechanism), and Mr. Florencio Venté (Co-director of the Migration Youth and Children Platform), and coordinated by Ms. Anna Calvete Moreno.* The report received additional contributions from the Working Group Co-Chairs and members, with the support of the **GFMD Secretariat**.

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1. Introduction

We are living in a context of harsh global changes, including severe humanitarian crises, that have a strong impact on local populations and the different communities, particularly migrants[1]. We are only six years away from 2030, the deadline set by the global community to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the multilateral system is currently being reshaped in pursuit of a more embracing, inclusive and integrated future that allows for the acknowledgment and participation of all stakeholders. In this context, the Global Forum for Migration and Development (GFMD) has proven to be a critical space for collaboration between all levels of government, the private sector, international organizations, academia, civil society and the youth to debate and implement innovative solutions to the current global humanitarian and sustainability challenges. During the GFMD 14th Summit organized by France, many of the topics discussed were relevant to the agenda 2030 and the SDGs.

Considering the relevance of the GFMD discussions for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2024 High-level Political Forum (HLPF), and in line with previous efforts made by the GFMD,[2] the GFMD 2030 Agenda Rapporteur Team has produced this synthesis report aiming to inform the GFMD Working Group on International Migration and Sustainable Development's contribution to the HLPF and to globally rescuing the SDGs. For that, the synthesis report focuses on the priorities identified for the 2024 HLPF, particularly the progress towards SDGs 1 (No Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), 13 (Climate Action), 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) and the underlying SDG principles.

2. Migration brings us closer to the 2030 Agenda

The conversations at the GFMD made it clear that migration has proved to be a critical component of the progress towards jointly achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, its SDGs and targets as well as its underlying principles, despite its limited explicit mention in the instrument.

Promoting and deriving advantages from the contributions of those on the move has had a multidimensional positive impact: it has fostered increased population access to public services and reduced poverty (SDGs 1.2, 1.4), demonstrated the role of bottom-up local food production systems (SDG 2.4), contributed to integrating migration into climate change strategies and disaster adaptation plans (SDG 13.2), enhanced participation of migrants in decision-making (SDG 16.7) and created new partnerships for the goals (SDG 17), amongst many others.

This section will dive into the progress made in terms of achieving sustainable, just and egalitarian societies, cities, territories, countries and, all in all, the world: particularly, in terms of SDGs 1, 2, 13,

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[1] This synthesis report uses the word "migrant" indistinctly for migrants, displaced persons and refugees on the basis that actions need to be carried out for all of them regardless of administrative status.

[2] See the recommendations to the yearly editions of the HLPF that the GFMD has been offering since 2017 here: https://www.gfmd.org/process/gfmd-and-2030-agenda. In addition, see the Focused input to the 2023 Thematic Review of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development of the GFMD here: https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2023/HLPF%202023%20Inputs%20GFMD.pdf.

16 and 17. An analysis of the existing positive trends, innovations and opportunities will show the increasing commitment of all stakeholders towards safely managing migration and ensuring migrants' and socioeconomic, cultural and urban inclusion. The positive trends and innovations will be illustrated by summaries of impactful and inspiring practices carried out by the different actors.

2.1 SDG 1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Migration has proved to be a forceful poverty reduction tool for migrants, their families and communities, particularly in the host territories. Migrants are said to triple their income in their host territories with regard to their territory of origin. The impact of migrants upon poverty alleviation and socioeconomic development in their territories of origin is likewise notable: many Global South countries' GDP depends highly on remittances, which often exceed the local private sector's investments. Further, it has been broadly recognized that the role of diasporas goes much beyond economic engagement in both territories of origin and destination including their knowledge, skills and capacity for innovation, as well as their social and cultural contributions, dissemination of information about migration pathways, support to social inclusion, and their critical role in times of crises.[3]

However, not all migrants benefit equally from economic opportunities, with many of them, including women and youth, working in the informal sector with harsh livelihood conditions, deskilling or suffering exploitation of different kinds. The lack of safe, regular and predictable opportunities for all reinforces the poverty-inequality-migration nexus, hampering the achievement of SDGs 1 and 10, amongst others. A positive aspect, as was recalled during the GFMD, is that poverty is being increasingly analyzed in terms of economic poverty but most importantly as a multidimensional challenge beyond GDP metrics. Amongst others, this has allowed to conclude that, despite neglectful narratives around migrants profiting from official support channels, migrants tend to contribute more in taxes and social contributions than they receive.[4] As recalled by the IOM, the pandemic underscored the crucial significance of social protection and health coverage in line with SDG 3 on good health and wellbeing (22% of labour migrants are not covered by any social protection scheme). Post-pandemic, there is a necessity to reconsider the inclusiveness of the design and delivery of assistance, overcoming legal, practical, administrative or other barriers.[5] Extending social protection and universal health coverage to all migrants, to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities and enable their active participation in and contribution to societies is actually one of the acceleration actions identified by the IOM to leverage human mobility to rescue the 2030 Agenda.[6]

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[3] See the GFMD Background Paper Roundtable 3: Diasporas as actors of economic, social and cultural development here:
https://www.gfmd.org/sites/g/files/tmzbdl1801/files/documents/france2023/roundtables/GFMD%20GRT%203%20-%20Background%20paper%20Final_EN.pdf?EN.
[4] IOM, Leveraging Human Mobility to Rescue the 2030 Agenda IOM Flagship Report for the SDG Summit, 2023. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/pub2023-141-r-iom-flagship-report-leveraging-human-mobility_0.pdf.
[5] IOM, 2023. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/pub2023-141-r-iom-flagship-report-leveraging-human-mobility_0.pdf.
[6] IOM, 2023. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/pub2023-141-r-iom-flagship-report-leveraging-human-mobility_0.pdf.

As the level of government closest to the communities, local and regional governments (LRGs) are the first respondents to the impact of migration. As has been broadly stated, migration is a global phenomenon but essentially a local reality[7] ("Cities are where the action happens, where migration happens", as put forward by IOM DG Amy Pope during the 14th Summit). This has an impact on achieving most of the SDGs. LRGs, usually in partnership with civil society organizations, offer migrants housing (SDG 11), water and sanitation (SDG 6), health (SDG 3), energy (SDG 7), they have to care for them and their diverse needs and aspirations. They guarantee social protection against a context of growing global shocks, support their inclusion in their communities, and facilitate them to be part of local culture. Through local service provision, they adopt plans and strategies that foster migrants' and other populations' resilience and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to crises, as in Poitiers (France), where in the context of rising heat waves and flooding, they offer protection and shelter to homeless migrants. It is in the context of multiple crises with rising inflation and impoverishing livelihoods, often accompanied by the lack of responses at the national level, that LRGs understand the daily lives of our communities. This is exemplified by Barranquilla's Route for Integration[8], which focuses on migrants' sociocultural urban and productive integration by getting to know their needs and creating particular pathways for each family, with support and monitoring throughout the process. In addition, communities and civil society play a critical role as informal support mechanisms in the face of failing or struggling governments.

And more often than not, through bottom-up solutions LRGs and local stakeholders do all of this regardless of the migrants' administrative status, placing these peoples' lives at the center of public action and trying to surmount the legal burdens and challenges imposed by a global system that is yet to facilitate regular and safe pathways for migration. In order to strengthen our efforts towards the end of poverty, and aligned with SDG 8 on decent work, one of the critical paths requires incorporating the consideration of secure and consistent labour mobility, along with the promotion of fair employment for migrant workers, into national adaptation planning procedures.[9] This entails constructing equitable transition frameworks for labour mobility programs that prioritize the enhancement of decent work, skills mobility, development, and the alleviation of poverty, with special consideration given to least developed countries and small island developing States (SIDS). Likewise, as addressed by the youth delegate Careen Joel Mwakitalu, offering technical expertise and capacity building for entrepreneurs, youth and women groups is necessary.

Development actors can thus provide funding to support initiatives aimed at addressing the root causes of irregular migration and displacement in a changing environment, such as investing in sustainable agriculture practices, access to employment as a depolarization strategy or building resilient infrastructure. Reflecting this need in the Pact for the Future, through the explicit inclusion of the topic of migration and its root drivers, would be a crucial step to ensuring its implementation.

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[7] 68% of the world's population (6.7 bn people) is expected to live in cities by 2050, whereby 90% of this new urban population is expected to live in Asia and Africa. UCLG, GOLD VI. Pathways to urban and territorial equality. Addressing inequalities through local transformation strategies, 2022. https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/211222_uclg-gold-vi_en_report_for_web.pdf.

[8] See : https://migrationnetwork.un.org/pledge/palante-ruta-para-abordaje-integral-de-migrantes-y-refugiados-en-barranquilla-para-su

[9] GFMD. Background Paper Roundtable 4: Labour Migration: Promoting the Economic Inclusion of Migrants. https://www.gfmd.org/sites/g/files/tmzbdl1801/files/documents/france2023/roundtables/GFMD%20GRT%204%20-%20Background%20paper%20Final_EN.pdf?EN.

2.2 SDG 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture

As people move across borders and within regions in search of better opportunities, governments and communities find themselves at the forefront of addressing the multifaceted challenges associated with migration, particularly in ensuring food security for both migrants and the host populations. Negative factors such as climate change environmental degradation, disasters, conflicts and violence, poverty and inequalities are changing the migration and food insecurity landscape faster than ever before, for which reason bold and collective solutions are urgent.

One key aspect of managing the intersection of migration and food security involves integrating migrants into local food systems. This has included initiatives to support community gardens, farmers' markets, and educational programs that teach sustainable and locally-appropriate agricultural practices. By fostering a sense of community and shared responsibility, local environments are created where migrants and host communities collaborate in ensuring food resilience. Efforts still need to be made, nevertheless, to protect and fulfill the rights of migrant workers employed in the food sector.

LRGs serve as the first line of response to the impact of migration on food availability, distribution and access. The influx of new residents brings cultural diversity but also places additional strain on local resources, including food supplies. LRGs must adapt policies and infrastructure to accommodate the changing population dynamics and prevent food insecurity among groups in situations of heightened vulnerability in both urban and rural landscapes.

Migrants contribute to the achievement of this goal in several impactful ways, fostering positive outcomes for both their host and home communities. Firstly, migrants often bring diverse skills, knowledge, and cultural practices related to agriculture and food production - thus contributing to achieving SDGs 2 and 12. This diversity can enhance local farming techniques, introduce new crops, and improve overall agricultural productivity. Some of these practices were exemplified during the GFMD discussions. For instance, at the Youth Leadership Innovation Award ceremonies, initiatives like the Muhokya IDP Camp Livelihoods Project[10], funded by Crispus Mwemaho, are hiring ten acres of land. Twenty migrant households are producing fast-growing food crops and learning sustainable and organic farming practices, creating economic opportunities and reducing child famine among the households. The exchange of agricultural practices between migrants and host communities can contribute to sustainable farming methods, ultimately helping achieve SDG 2's objectives. Furthermore, migrants contribute to the resilience of food systems by diversifying the workforce in the agricultural sector. This diversity helps mitigate the impact of external shocks such as climate change, pests, or diseases.

Migrants frequently engage in the agricultural sector as workers, filling essential roles in various stages of the food supply chain. Nevertheless, their conditions are more often than not known to be reasonably precarious: work conditions and the lack of safe and regular job opportunities, their exposure to pesticides, the lack of access healthcare due to irregular work conditions, the lack of protection in labour laws, their need to live in camps and overcrowded conditions exposing them to

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[10] See : https://www.gofundme.com/f/muhokya-camp-livelihood-project?utm_campaign=p_lico+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer

the risk of infections or diseases… Urgent measures are required to achieve not only SDG 2 but also to ensure decent work (SDG 8) and alleviate the poverty of these populations (SDG 1).

Remittances from migrant workers play a significant role in supporting food security in their home countries. Families receiving remittances often invest in agriculture, purchasing seeds, fertilizers, or equipment to enhance their farming capabilities. This financial support can lead to increased food production, improved livelihoods, and reduced poverty, aligning with the broader goals of SDG 2.

It is important to note that references to SDG 2 and the pairing of migration-food security were mentioned only in a scattered way during the GFMD Summit. As 2024 arises as an important year in the fight against hunger, poverty and inequality, with the HLPF and the G20 Presidency focusing on these priorities, the 30th anniversary of UNFPA's International Conference on Population and Development and the Summit of the Future renewing multilateralism, we will need to leverage the opportunities as a global community to make sure migrants' rights and food security are protected, promoted and fulfilled.

2.3 SDG 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Climate change has been one of the main topics of the GFMD Summit and previous work. And not without a reason: "Integrate human mobility into national adaptation and climate change response plans, and invest in preparedness and loss and damages provisions, to forge impactful climate and peace action" is also one of the acceleration actions identified by the IOM to rescue the SDGs.[11]

Climate change causes more displacement-related impacts than conflicts, as evidenced by the alarming statistics on the number of people displaced by rising sea levels and increased incidences of storms, heat, fires, floods and drought. Climate-induced human displacement is a one-way ticket, particularly for small island developing states. While conflict or political refugees may have hope that the situation will one day improve and allow them to return, this is a doubtful option for people displaced by climate change. People in low-income developing countries will likely be the most vulnerable, including in Pacific Island regions. With this in mind, actors need to develop and implement more workable and inclusive options for managing the impacts of climate change to ensure, among other things, the survival of the most vulnerable, in a just green transition agenda that prioritizes working for all (relevant to SDGs 13 and 16).

In this vein, it is imperative for climate adaptation and climate response actions to involve the migrant and at-risk population to ensure a realistic reduction of climate-related impacts during such disasters as well as for the slow effects of climate change and environmental degradation affect populations. These need to be tailored to context-specific circumstances, informed by the meaningful participation of affected communities, whilst being inspired by the experiences and innovations of other countries in similar experiences as we have heard in the past days in this Forum. As mentioned by small island developing states and Pacific Islands at large, we need to shift our mindset to include migration

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[11] IOM, 2023. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/pub2023-141-r-iom-flagship-report-leveraging-human-mobility_0.pdf

policies into our climate change and adaptation plans, and in our disaster response plans, to become more resilient as a community, as a population and be able to ensure that everyone's needs are met.

This notwithstanding, migration has its positive sides and can be one of multiple solutions in the face of the challenges presented by climate change and a conduit to promote sustainable development, including SDGs 14 on life below water and fifteen on life on land. There are best practices that point to the fact that migration could become an adaptive strategy for a phenomenon like climate change. For example, seasonal and temporary migration can help reduce stress on households. For instance, in Ghana's northern parts, for seven months in the year, there is no economic activity due to temperature and precipitation changes. Consequently, when the youth stays up North during that period, they become very vulnerable. By migrating from the North to the South for jobs, the families they leave behind can build resilience in communities at the grassroots level. There are plenty of examples of how international migration has birthed development in developing countries through diaspora remittances, which help create new projects in origin countries. Remittances have proven to be a gateway to development in countries of origin, especially in their ability to enhance reintegration of migrant workers both socially and financially contributing to elevation of their communities, whether through entrepreneurship or skills.

From a more proactive stance, if the world had heard calls ten or twenty years ago, vulnerable groups would not be in this challenging situation of dealing with migration-related climate change impacts, threatening ancestral lands, homes and cultures. Vulnerable parties should not be forced to leave their homes, but pathways should exist to protect people on the move — including the protection of cultural identity and rights. As has been exhibited by Paris, nations and cities can adapt to the changing times and pressing need for' policy innovation' by, for instance, publishing new climate plans to preserve the city's livability and reduce inequalities for all residents, including migrants. Again, in Paris, an alliance has been formed between the city council, IOM and the Hugo Observatory on a project to understand better how climate change affects migration and urban planning and how to integrate this information into public policies[12].

In all of this, it is essential to point out that children, women, and youth remain most vulnerable to the impact of climate change. In a real sense, this can be linked to the fact that there is a need to advocate for recognizing various forms of loss and damage beyond economic and property-based concerns. Emotional, cultural, and social losses must be acknowledged and addressed through investments in psychosocial support. This offers an entry point for 'climate migration' data. Data plays a crucial role in understanding the magnitude of how climate change intersects with mobility and migration, but it also frames our language, mindset, and actions. The voices of the youth and other relatable groupings must be amplified by all responsible parties to complement a rights-based, bottom-up approach to data collection and dissemination. Similarly, climate change has deepened disparities between the Global North and South, thereby addressing localized needs for children and youth on the move and ensuring better resource allocation for policy and decision-making processes affecting children and youth, which is the need of the hour.

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[12] See: https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/climate-migration-urban-areas-challenges-representations-and-inclusion

Critical for arguments relating to climate change and migration is the existing situation, and although the links between climate change and human mobility are increasingly acknowledged, very few states provide protection systems (asylum or any other form of protection) to people explicitly displaced by climate change and environmental degradation. The emergency perspective towards migration and displacement must be replaced by a more integrated vision that puts resilience, sustainability, and preparedness at the center. This is important because human mobility is recognized as a consequence of and a strategy for adapting to climate change. Local governments are critical in responding to climate change through mitigation and adaptation solutions. Amongst others, they are adopting disaster risk reduction and management and climate action plans that account for climate mobility, promoting climate vulnerability assessments and nature-based solutions for disaster mitigation involving migrant populations, enhancing local consumption and production systems as a lever for sustainable economic development and social cohesion at local and regional levels; addressing climate vulnerabilities at territorial level by upgrading informal settlements, reducing exposure to climate hazards and improving thermal comfort among vulnerable households.

Arguably, timely and comprehensive disaster risk reduction and management, and climate change action plans that account for climate mobility, remain crucial to mitigating the impacts of disasters and resource scarcity on people's lives. Planned relocations represent a critical facet of climate-induced migration, particularly affecting vulnerable communities in the Caribbean and Pacific islands. The focus is on establishing robust and inclusive policies and practices for climate resilience and adaptation that prioritize the rights and values of indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as children and youth. Addressing the challenges associated with planned relocations, including non-economic losses and damage, is essential for fostering collaboration, understanding, and justice in the face of the climate crisis. These additionally contribute to providing the required impetus for accelerating the actions necessary to advance the achievements of the targets of the SDGs.

For climate adaptation and climate response, it is essential to involve the migrant population to reduce the impact when such disasters happen. These need to be tailored to individual circumstances while being inspired by the experiences and innovations of other countries in similar experiences as we have heard in the past days in this Forum. It is imperative to shift our mindset to include migration policies into national and local climate change, adaptation plans and disaster response plans, to become more resilient as a community, as a population and be able to ensure that everyone's needs are provided for.

2.4 SDG 16 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

The world is currently facing the highest number of conflicts since World War II. Conflict, violence, and disasters are significant contributors to internal displacement, impeding progress towards the SDGs.[13]

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[13] GFMD, Background paper Roundtable 6: "Multi-level governance: bringing together the various stakeholders for improved migration management", 2023.
https://www.gfmd.org/sites/g/files/tmzbdl1801/files/documents/france2023/roundtables/GFMD%20GRT%20 6%20-%20Background%20paper%20Final_EN.pdf?EN

At the GFMD Summit, Emilia Saiz, the Secretary General of UCLG, highlighted the disheartening reality that substantial funding is directed towards fueling conflicts.

In the backdrop of the current global landscape, the GFMD Summit prominently featured the humanitarian-peace-development nexus, with migration holding a pivotal role within it. The recurrent theme emphasized the inseparability of envisioning the future of migration from a world entrenched in peace. The aspiration is to foster a world where migration is driven by choice rather than necessity.

The United Nations Secretary General's Our Common Agenda recognizes the imperative of a "New Agenda for Peace" as a foundational element for establishing a more effective, interconnected, and inclusive multilateral system. Going beyond the rhetoric embedded in the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda, the Secretary General, in Policy Brief 9 on A New Agenda for Peace,[14] underscores the significance of promoting peace and peacebuilding at the grassroots level. At the GFMD, a consensus emerged that peace transcends mere absence of conflict; it entails eradicating discrimination and violence in various forms.

This comprehensive perspective views peace not solely as the absence of direct violence, such as war, crime, terrorism, or gender-based violence. It extends to addressing structural discrimination rooted in political and economic injustice, contributing to inequality leading to poverty, hunger, and adverse living conditions. Additionally, cultural marginalization is identified as a form of violence manifesting at the symbolic level, perpetuated through beliefs, ideology, science, art, law, education, and media language. The collective stance at the GFMD asserts that true peace can only be realized when interpersonal, structural, and cultural violence are eliminated.

As peace takes center stage in the universal development agenda, the global municipal movement remains committed to the transformative and preventive essence of city diplomacy by local and regional governments. This approach strives to foster local-to-local dialogue, transcend boundaries, and proactively address conflicts in solidarity. Facilitating communication between cities, territories, local authorities, and their diverse communities, including those on the move, serves as a crucial strategy to tackle present and future challenges tied to natural resources, the climate crisis, and to promote sustainable peace and justice. Furthermore, it contributes to the revitalization of multilateralism.

Local and regional governments, having demonstrated their capacity, are uniquely positioned to safeguard community rights and engage populations as the cornerstone of sustainable peace grounded in local democracy. Additionally, impactful small-scale solutions often emerge from private initiatives. For instance, the award-winning social technology initiative, Peace Therapist,[15] led by youth delegate Jin Dawod from Syria, offers free online and in-person psychological support to refugees, migrants, and displaced individuals. This initiative, involving over one hundred therapists proficient in English, Arabic, Turkish, and Kurdish, played a pivotal role in alleviating trauma and supporting the mental health of over 6,000 victims of the 2023 earthquake affecting Türkiye and Syria.

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[14] United Nations, Our Common Agenda, Policy Brief 9. A New Agenda for Peace, 2023. https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/our-common-agenda-policy-brief-new-agenda-for-peace-en.pdf.
[15] See: https://peacetherapist.com/.

For local and regional governments and their communities to influence positions, shape policy recommendations, and contribute to global discussions through their peacebuilding mechanisms, they require essential tools and support from national and international spheres of government. Empowering communities and migrants, with a particular focus on the youth, must align with the overarching goal of fostering just, peaceful, and inclusive societies.

SDG 16 extends beyond peace, encompassing various targets that strive to enhance institutions and render them more just, participatory, and inclusive. Eric Apelgren, Head of Department - International and Governance Relations at eThekwini Municipality, emphasizes the imperative of sharing policies and resources with migrants. Inclusion of migrants in governance is seen as essential for fostering cohesion and safety. Nations are progressively incorporating migration considerations into development planning to formulate more effective, sustainable, and just solutions. Examples highlighted by the IOM in the Republic of Moldova, Mozambique, and the Philippines underscore this trend[16], while numerous instances at the local and regional levels showcase meaningful migrant participation, as detailed in the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees 2023 report.[17] The adoption of participatory approaches has proven instrumental in supporting displacement responses within cities. Integrating urban migrants' perspectives into policy formulation is directly correlated with the creation of more effective, sustainable, and legitimate solutions. Nonetheless, challenges persist, as elucidated in the following section, particularly in subsections 3.1 and 3.3.

Ensuring access to national justice systems for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers is crucial in preventing criminals from exploiting vulnerability to deceive and smuggle other people. The repercussions of missing migrants can destabilize communities, undermine the long-term prospects of peace efforts, marginalize individuals and become in turn a driver of forced migration. The International Organization for Migration estimates that since 2014 more than 60,000 people have died on migration routes around the world. It is highly likely that many more have disappeared without a trace, having fallen victim of trafficking, slavery and other crimes, or having lost their lives crossing deserts or the Mediterranean Sea. All countries are obligated under international law to clarify the circumstances surrounding a person's disappearance on their territory and notify their families, however, awareness around the issue is still lacking. In Mexico, Article 30 of the Constitution directly grants Mexican nationality to individuals born abroad whose parents were born in Mexican territory or acquired it through naturalization. However, federal entities often impose requirements through their secondary regulations that exceed those required by the Constitution. The State of Tlaxcala commits to ensuring effective access to the right to identify for individuals born abroad through the elimination of the requirement to present an apostilled foreign birth certificate in order to obtain dual nationality[18]. With this policy, the State offers a structural solution that allows effective access to the right to identity for individuals born abroad, which in turn secures access to other fundamental rights such as health, education, work, and housing. It guarantees protection of foreign-born children and also provides an opportunity for returning and deported families to integrate into their communities.

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[16] IOM, 2023. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/pub2023-141-r-iom-flagship-report-leveraging-human-mobility_0.pdf

[17] GFMD Mayors Mechanism, Localizing the Global Compacts. Second Report on Local Action for Migrants and Refugees - 2023, 2023. https://localaction.mayorsmechanism.org/sites/default/files/2023-12/Mayor%20Mechanism%202023%20Call%20to%20Local%20Action_web.pdf.

[18] See: https://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/18571

Ongoing efforts also focus on establishing effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels that enable migrants to access official information and contribute to data collection processes. While digitalization and technology can aid these endeavors, in the current polarized global context with mistrust in public institutions and false narratives, there is a need to intensify efforts to advocate for migrants' rights. This includes ensuring robust data protection measures to prevent the misuse of information for persecution purposes.

2.5 SDG 17 Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

The GFMD exemplifies the implementation of partnership for sustainable development, which brings together stakeholders such as member states, civil society, the private sector, youth, and local and regional governments. During the summit, the GFMD mechanisms, Youth representatives, friends of the Forum, and the French Chair organized various awards, such as the Youth Leadership and Innovation Award, the Startup Competition, and the Migrant4Climate Award, which highlight good practices of partnerships and allow different stakeholders to work together and address pressing issues.

The delegations at the GFMD emphasized that cooperation and partnerships must be vertical and horizontal, involving different sectors and stakeholders to promote a holistic approach to tackling pressing needs. One recommendation from the delegation of Bangladesh was that members of parliament should play a more decisive role in taking part in multi-stakeholder engagement to bring GFMD outcomes to national and local contexts; this aligned with one of the SDGs targets to address North-South, South-South, and triangular regional and international cooperation through improved coordination among existing mechanisms.

Financing for migration and development was another important topic discussed at the GFMD's Summit Round Table 6, where the World Bank representative stressed that financing must involve multiple levels, including support for the private sector and the international community, local authorities, civil society, and youth. Funding must be channeled in through flexible, accessible and sustainable mechanisms. The conversations echoed the UN Secretary-General's call for a "radical transformation of global financial system to tackle pressing global challenges", in his understanding that "unfair global financial system that is short-term, crisis-prone, and that further exacerbates inequalities" are "in large part" the cause of "[t]oday's poly-crises [that] are compounding shocks on developing countries".[19] The discussion also highlighted the need to coordinate efforts with other frameworks, such as the preparations for the 4th Financing for Development Summit hosted by Spain in 2025, to address resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries affected by climate change and other drivers of migration. A specific challenge on the global financial architecture is included in this report's section 3.5.

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[19] United Nations, "UN Secretary-General calls for radical transformation of global financial system to tackle pressing global challenges", 2023. https://www.un.org/en/desa/un-secretary-general-calls-radical-transformation-global-finan-cial-system-tackle-pressing.

Partnerships are also critical in finding solutions to different social needs. For example, the World Health Organization's (WHO) Health Migration Department representative emphasized that the right to health is non-negotiable and requires legal and political support, involving the participation of all sectors of society. Stella Opoku-Owusu, Director of the African Foundation for Development, also stressed the need for a conversation on colonization and restitution of cultural elements and the role of diaspora communities in development.

To target the goal of the Global Partnerships for Sustainable Development, mobilizing a number of stakeholders to share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources is required to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries. The GFMD stands out as a meaningful space for contributions to migration policy discussions promoting spaces such as the Government and Private Sector session & IOE 4th Migration Challenge, the Government and Civil Society session, the Government and Mayors session, the youth innovation labs, the different side event and the Marketplace of Ideas.

Another good practice that reflects the sense of collaboration is the GFMD Platform for Partnerships, which is a repository of good practices ordered by SDG Goal, which highlights how member states, civil society, the private sector, local and regional governments, youth, and other stakeholders work together along with efforts such as the Working Group on Narratives also contribute to this goal.

3. The challenges concern us all: we need to act

Despite the previous achievements, which we need to celebrate, the world is still far off track from achieving the SDGs, with only 15% of the SDG targets showing positive trends[20] in a context of multiple complex emergencies and crises. Ensuring positive outcomes for the migrant population and the whole of society requires all stakeholders to address the pending challenges with urgency if we are to achieve the 2030 Agenda's commitments and goals. This section will bring forward some of the most pressing challenges for human mobility today, including but going beyond the specific SDGs under review at the 2024 HLPF.

3.1 Challenge 1: Migration is still absent from many policy discussions and action, or largely considered a challenge rather than an opportunity towards achieving the SDGs

Integrating human mobility across national and international frameworks, policies and plans, whether strategic or sectorial, is still a pending matter that has a direct negative impact on migrants' and communities' lives and livelihoods. Failing to mainstream migration in debates and actions around climate change, disaster risk reduction, peace and conflict resolution, employment, urban and territorial planning, and other policy domains at local, national, and international levels hinders the

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[20] United Nations, Seventy-eighth Session, 1st & 2nd Meetings (AM & PM), GA/SHC/4372, 28 September 2023, "Only 15 Per Cent of Global Development Goals on Track, as Multiple Factors Stall, Hamper, Reverse Inclusive and Sustained Development, Third Committee Stresses", 2023.
https://press.un.org/en/2023/gashc4372.doc.htm; United Nations, "Goals 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development",
https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal17#targets_and_indicators.

creation of comprehensive and responsive policies. This oversight exacerbates the vulnerabilities of migrants, as their unique needs and challenges remain unaddressed, perpetuating a cycle of inadequate support and marginalization in the face of evolving global dynamics. In 2021, 26 of 41 countries reporting to the HLPF (63%) addressed migration in their VNRs, and almost 50% reported on target 10.7.[21] While figures may evolve positively over time, there is a lot of work to be done to ensure migration permeates all SDGs and other agendas.

For this, capacities of policymakers and grassroots stakeholders need to be built on a permanent basis to make sure migrants' voices are heard. Coordination mechanisms involving migrants and refugees are currently rare, and are mostly at the local level. The incorporation of such mechanisms is crucial to ensuring migrants have a meaningful voice in society and political discussions, extending beyond sporadic or tokenistic consultations or requests for inputs. Local governments, grassroots stakeholders, children and youth and migrants themselves must play a vital role in steering discussions towards a nuanced understanding of migration, genuinely valuing the voices and experiences of migrants.

São Paulo provides a noteworthy example where every migrant has the right to access local public services regardless of their legal and administrative status. Public servants are trained to address the specific needs and challenges of migrants, with a centralized center facilitating efficient promotion of migrants' rights and access to services. The establishment of a municipal council of migrants, allowing migrants to elect their own representatives, demonstrates a broad mobilization that has even influenced legislative changes at the national level[22].

It is imperative for policymakers to recognize migration as a valuable asset, ensuring that future policy frameworks not only address the challenges associated with migration but also harness its potential to create more resilient, vibrant, and sustainable societies globally.

3.2 Challenge 2: The lack of safe and regular pathways for migration

Harsh border management imposes a significant burden on migrants, hindering their access to essential services like health (SDG 3) and education (SDG 4), increasing the risks of exploitation and quite often putting their own lives in jeopardy due to dangerous routes. It does not prevent irregular migration either. The GFMD showed that, if migrants are to engage with case resolution, we need to ensure that people are not put at risk of detention or deportation. The key lies in establishing secure and regular migration pathways to protect people on the move, as put forward by the Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum (which represents a territory that has been struggling with the impacts of climate change for decades). This requires ensuring access to services and documentation, and prioritizing inclusivity to achieve the overarching goal of leaving no one behind. As an example of innovative policies that establish secure and regular pathways for labour migrants, the UAE allows job seekers to enter the country on a visit or job seeker visa enabling them to legally search for a decent job opportunity and convert their legal status to a resident with additional privileges once a job is secured, thereby mitigating risks of exploitation and smuggling, while assuring a safe and regular pathway for labour migrants. All of this does not only result in better living conditions for migrants but

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[21] UNESCWA, Guidance note Integrating migration in voluntary national reviews, 2023. https://www.unescwa.org/sites/default/files/pubs/pdf/integrating-migration-voluntary-national-reviews-english.pdf.
[22] See : https://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11556

also contributes to enhanced social integration, economic stability, and a more inclusive and resilient society for the host communities.

As shared by GFMD participants, the criminalization of migration cannot be the solution, nor should migrants' rights defenders be targeted. Civil society organizations and local governments, engaged in direct support for migrants' dignity and human rights, must be integral participants in local, national, and global policy discussions along with migrants themselves.

Safe and regular migration pathways, particularly linked to labour markets, offer many opportunities and play a vital role in meaningful global value chain participation. To enable this, policies on labour mobility, education and skills development are required, along with establishing channels to ensure migrants are aware of their legal rights at every step of their process. As the IOM has identified, in order to rescue the SDGs it is critical to "[d]evelop safe and regular migration pathways, invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of qualifications, to meet the needs of changing labour markets and divergent demographic trend".[23] Nevertheless, when designing and implementing such labour-linked mechanisms, it is crucial that safe and regular migration pathways be developed that are also inclusive of those at-risk who may not qualify for labour mobility schemes. These are often the most vulnerable, such as children, the elderly, and those experiencing disabilities, as well as primary caretakers of homes and families who cannot afford to leave for a job elsewhere. With the escalation of climate mobility, the significance of expanding legal pathways becomes integral within this more comprehensive strategy. Strengthening existing migration pathways requires a focus on information-sharing and support, exemplified by the Quezon City's Migrant Resource Center - a comprehensive one-stop-shop supporting overseas Filipino workers throughout the migration cycle[24]. The center's success is attributed to partnerships with national and international entities such as ILO and the European Union, coupled with community engagement to ensure a human-centered approach, expertise, resources, and inclusion.

3.3 Challenge 3: False narratives and discrimination have a direct impact on migrants' lives

As a global society, we are falling short in acknowledging and promoting the dignity of migrants. There is a need to cultivate a deep understanding of the positive impacts that migration brings to our communities, emphasizing cultural exchanges, diversity, perspectives, tolerance, and understanding, rather than solely focusing on challenges and controversies.

As half of the world's population prepares to vote in elections in 2024, the significance of narratives takes center stage in shaping perspectives and influencing policies. The dissemination of false narratives can perpetuate harmful stereotypes, fostering an environment of distrust and prejudice that hampers the integration of migrants into their new societies. Indeed, fake news, misinformation and discredit may lead to racism, xenophobia and criminalization of migrants that negatively determine their conditions and futures, even when their contributions to the community are substantial and positive. For example, about migrants taking advantage of social security benefits - when it is known that, for instance, migrant women contribute to the labour force more than non-

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[23] IOM, 2023. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/pub2023-141-r-iom-flagship-report-leveraging-human-mobility_0.pdf.
[24] See: https://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/18546

migrant women (65% and 40% respectively). Or about migrants stealing jobs - when the reality shows that, if we look at migrant domestic workers globally, 74% are women,[25] doing caring tasks that are not prioritized by locals nor recognized and are broadly underpaid.

The populist language and rhetoric normalize the dehumanization of migrants and allow for societal desensitization towards the issues of sexual violence, lack of health care and increased risk of human trafficking. Also, the role of traditional media and social media platforms play a role in feeding into anti-migrant narratives.

This was precisely one of the outcomes of the discussions during the Migration Youth Forum as the GFMD preparatory space for youth delegates: young people are observing a rise in anti-immigrant rhetoric that has led to an increase in verbal and physical attacks and exposed migrants to structural xenophobia. This increase in hostile treatment of migrants can be observed across different regions.

In the face of growing false news, narratives, and a lack of trust surrounding migration, there is a pressing need for a collective effort to foster an understanding that migration should be a choice, not an obligation. Societies must embrace narratives that not only acknowledge diverse reasons behind migration but also advocate for policies grounded in human rights and empathy. This becomes particularly crucial in the context of climate change effects, emphasizing the right to remain in one's homeland.

Migrants possess the inherent need and right to speak out and share their stories, influencing not only policymaking through participatory mechanisms but also changing narratives in arenas as diverse as sports venues, cultural events, and other community-building activities. This is actually one of the acceleration actions pointed out by the IOM to rescue the SDGs: "Weave human mobility into development and urban planning, to increase social cohesion and boost development for all".[26] The GFMD Working Group on Public Narratives on Migration and the "It Takes A Community"[27] global social media communications campaign serves as examples of how multistakeholder approaches to migration contribute to promoting balanced and evidence-based narratives on migration.

3.4 Challenge 4: Misrecognition of the role of stakeholders in migration and development

While traditionally, migration governance has been under the purview of national authorities, aligned with the sovereign right of States to shape their migration policies, it is now acknowledged that migration, in its various manifestations, influences and is influenced by all levels and sectors of governance. Consequently, it is recognized as a cross-cutting element in broader governance, serving as a pivotal factor for the successful realization of the 2030 Agenda.

Throughout the three days of the GFMD, partnerships were not only present but the Forum was also lauded as a critical space for collaborative multi-level and multi-stakeholder dialogue, focusing on forward-looking solutions based on shared responsibilities. This foundation of collaboration is key to success and sustainability and holds the potential to inspire the design and functioning of the HLPF.

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[25] International Labour Organization, "Global Estimates of Migrant Workers and Migrant Domestic Workers: Results and Methodology", 2023. https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/labour-migration/publications/WCMS_436343/lang--en/index.htm.
[26] IOM, 2023. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/pub2023-141-r-iom-flagship-report-leveraging-human-mobility_0.pdf.
[27] See : https://www.ittakesacommunity.org/

Transitioning from words to action is crucial, with local actors possessing tested solutions and vast experiences on the ground, including with migrant populations. Their unique ability to ground migration policy-making in local realities, through bottom-up thinking, becomes essential.

In response to multiple crises and with limited budgets and powers, LRGs remain committed to the UN's global goals and a sound embrace of migrants as actors of change. Recognizing LRGs as forefront contributors to solutions necessitates coordinated efforts, capacity-building, competence provision, and attentive listening. Ecuador's 2017 Organic Law on Human Mobility exemplifies vertical coordination and policy coherence under a human-rights perspective, whose national government relies on provinces and cities to create more inclusive cities where the rights of all people on the move are protected[28]. Another example is the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees[29], generating over 120 local pledges for refugee inclusion and protection at the 2023 UN Global Refugee Forum and the GFMD. These initiatives significantly impact the lives of migrants and refugees, contributing to the realization of global humanitarian and development goals. It is crucial to recognize, promote, and support these grassroots efforts.

Civil society, youth, migrant associations, diaspora, private sector, trade unions, academia, and other key actors, when engaged through whole-of-society approaches, can enhance the impact of migration governance. Shifting from humanitarian action to a comprehensive approach for migrants' economic and social inclusion gains significance, as emphasized by the GFMD Business Mechanism. Increased participation by civil society and other stakeholders at all levels enhances responsibility and reinforces accountability.

Not challenging the status quo of top-down approaches and tokenistic engagement, together with the limited resources, time, capacities and political will, will continue to hinder participatory approaches, compounded by negative narratives around migrants. Ensuring migrants, diaspora, communities, and affected populations are fully integrated into the design, implementation, and review of migration governance not only enhances effectiveness and sustainability, but also empowers these actors. Recognizing the importance of removing barriers to diaspora engagement in both origin and host countries, embracing their valuable skills and direct international links through an intersectionality lens, and promoting intergenerational dialogue is vital. The IOM has identified as one of the acceleration actions to rescue the SDGs the reduction of remittance costs and the leveraging of different types of diaspora contributions to boost sustainable development finance, trade systems and global value chains.[30] The use of digital tools, particularly social media, is suggested to enhance commitment and facilitate work, especially with the young diaspora. This has also been highlighted by the IOM as an acceleration action to rescue the SDGs: "Reduce the digital access gap for people on the move, to improve integration and unlock innovative and green entrepreneurship."[31]

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[28] See : https://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/18368
[29] See : https://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/13001
[30] IOM, 2023. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/pub2023-141-r-iom-flagship-report-leveraging-human-mobility_0.pdf.
[31] IOM, 2023. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/pub2023-141-r-iom-flagship-report-leveraging-human-mobility_0.pdf.

3.5 Challenge 5: An obsolete multilateral financial system that does not reach migrants and other vulnerable groups

In our current urban era, the existing multilateral financial architecture proves inadequate for the necessary provision of services and goods to the populations. A sizable portion of funds is directed towards financing conflicts, which adds up to rendering the system obsolete and out of sync with the interconnectedness of our times. To propel innovative development financing, migration must take a central role in bridging the SDG funding gap.

Redirecting financial resources towards local service provision and towards covering the needs of the different populations, including migrants, holds the key to eliminating the "us and them" divide. Despite the political will of local governments, access to finance remains a substantial barrier to local action for migrants and refugees, especially in low- and middle-income countries, where 90% of forcibly displaced people reside. A glaring disparity is evident as only 1.2% of total international humanitarian assistance in 2022 reached local and national actors, missing the targeted 25%.[32] To rectify this, financial flows should extend beyond state channels, incorporate decentralized cooperation and reach local populations as directly as possible. Efforts like the Mayors Migration Council's Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees[33] and the UN's Migration Multi-Party Trust Fund[34] are plausible solutions through which LRGs and other local actors can receive the necessary funds to act.

All of this requires a strategic rethink not only within development banks but across the entire financial architecture. The question arises: Where are investments currently directed and why? This ambition necessitates immediate and impactful action to shift investment flows and ensure that funds swiftly reach those who need them. This must include expanding current structural understanding and provisions of flexibility and accessibility in order to effectively reach local populations and frontline communities.

Acknowledging the long-term nature of migration and displacement, structural support surpassing emergency aid becomes imperative. A sustained engagement spanning at least a decade is vital across services, economy, housing and more. Development funding, which often arrives too late, must be unlocked much earlier to address the enduring challenges effectively. It is important to bear in mind the distinction between grants and loans, and how each conditions the recipients' possibilities, and the principles of climate justice.

As mentioned above, the restructuring of the multilateral financial architecture needs to be accompanied by a rethinking of national and international legal frameworks. Bilateral agreements become crucial. However, challenges arise when host countries have not ratified essential

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[32] GFMD Mayors Mechanism, 2023. https://localaction.mayorsmechanism.org/sites/default/files/2023-12/Mayor%20Mechanism%202023%20Call%20to%20Local%20Action_web.pdf.
[33] Mayors Migration Council, "Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees", 2023. https://mayorsmigrationcouncil.org/gcf/.
[34] United Nations Network on Migration, "Migration Multi-Party Trust Fund", 2023. https://migrationnetwork.un.org/mptf.

conventions, leading to migrants losing human rights. International organizations, such as the ILO and IOM, should adopt a comprehensive approach encompassing legal instruments and their implementation to ensure the protection of migrants, ensuring businesses and trade unions are involved in the formulation and implementation of such covenants and agreements at all levels.

Equally critical, related to the need for safe and regular pathways, is advocating for the presumption of identity as a fundamental human right. The application of instruments like the apostille dispensation is recommended, prioritizing human rights over technical-legal procedures. This approach, exemplified by Tlaxcala and Boston,[35] underscores the importance of placing individuals at the core of action.

In response to the evident inadequacies in the financial architecture, donors, international financing institutions, banks, and philanthropists must collaborate to create more flexible funding mechanisms. These mechanisms should embrace innovation, allow room for failure, facilitate learning, and adapt across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. For example, a funding mechanism should be created that encourages joint ownership of resources by the indigenous and local communities, children and youth in partnership with the different levels of government, businesses and civil society. Such a multistakeholder mechanism would clearly uphold transparency and accountability. Improving the current situation also requires removing the structural barriers to accessing the existing pool of resources and funding for young people with innovative ideas to get a level-playing field. Such a collaborative effort is essential to bring about the transformative changes needed for a more inclusive and effective financial system.

3.6 Challenge 6: Persisting siloed approaches at all levels

As put forward by Cécile Riallant, Head of Sustainable Development Unit at the IOM, migration is a global phenomenon, but essentially a local reality. One of the biggest challenges that emerged during the GFMD discussions is the need to overcome the fragmented approach to dealing with issues of migration and development, the policy incoherence at the global, national and local level. Climate is changing, demographics are changing, technology is changing. But the legal frameworks and the policies at the national and international level, oftentimes unaware of the daily lives of migrants and communities, are not adapting fast enough to address the root causes of irregular migration and displacement in a context of global challenges such as the climate crisis, rising inequalities and mistrust and social exclusion. As an example, in 2021, only 26 of 41 countries (63%) addressed migration in their VNRs, and almost 50% reported on target 10.7.[36]

If we understand that the discussions around migration and development must not only take place at the local, national and international level but also be in the context of climate justice, human rights, peace and sustainable development, then we need to move away from a siloed approach. A systems

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[35] Mayors Migration Council, 2023. https://localaction.mayorsmechanism.org/sites/default/files/2023-12/Mayor%20Mechanism%202023%20Call%20to%20Local%20Action_web.pdf.
[36] UNESCWA, 2023. https://www.unescwa.org/sites/default/files/pubs/pdf/integrating-migration-voluntary-national-reviews-english.pdf.

approach is therefore needed to address drivers, linking humanitarian, development and peace considerations.

Working in silos within institutions does not effectively allow us to address migration issues and ensure that migration becomes a positive force mutually influencing local and global development agendas. A lack of collaboration and coordination across diverse sectors such as education, employment, healthcare, and social services, institutions prevent policymakers and actors from developing comprehensive policies that recognize the multifaceted nature of migration, and financing strategies and projects accordingly. An integrated approach would facilitate a more nuanced understanding of migrants' needs, promote inclusive practices, and harness the diverse contributions migrants bring to local and global societies. It would emphasize that migration is not a standalone concern but intricately connected to broader development goals, urging institutions to work synergistically for a holistic and equitable approach that benefits both migrants and the communities they become a part of.

A very critical cross-sectorial principle is multilevel governance, which fosters coordination and coproduction across institutions and across sectors. Sound multilevel governance schemes require local and territorial approaches to migration, now more than ever, with rural areas suffering the consequences of urbanization trends, depopulation, diminished economic vitality and community infrastructures, and a shrinking labour force, particularly a drain on skilled and young workforce. Effective local strategies must be implemented to address these issues, fostering sustainable development, and recognizing the vital role that both urban and rural areas play in shaping a comprehensive and inclusive approach to migration management. The IOM-UNDP Global Programme on Making Migration Work for Sustainable Development'' and the "Mainstreaming Migration into International Cooperation and Development" projects[37] ensure a multilevel and multistakeholder approach for enhanced effectiveness and sustainability through the strategic engagement and capacity building of national, local and other relevant actors in specific countries.

3.7 Challenge 7: Oversight of migrants through data impedes understanding their specific needs and aspirations

Throughout the GFMD it was made clear that there is a consistent oversight of migrants and human mobility in official SDG research and data, which hampers achieving Objective 1 of the Global Compact on Migration. Alarmingly, only about half of the 193 countries or areas possess internationally comparable data for nine out of the 17 SDGs since 2015.[38] In addition, not all SDG indicators are applicable at the local level, necessitating investments in local monitoring and reporting mechanisms with disaggregated data. The localized impact of the Global Compacts on Migrants and Refugees on the global agendas, such as the COP, the SDGs, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, remains unknown.

The challenges related to data are diverse. Ground-level institutions, including LRGs, civil society, youth-led organizations and academia, often lack the resources and capacities to establish robust

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[37] Migration for Development, "Our Programmes", 2023. https://migration4development.org/en/about/our-programmes.

[38] IOM, Harnessing Data Innovation for Migration Policy: A Handbook for Practitioners, 2023. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/Practitioners-Guide.pdf.

monitoring systems with context-specific indicators. Data rarely includes disaggregation by sex, age, employment, education, marital status, migration status, (dis)ability, and other characteristics, hindering understanding of migrants' concrete situations in each specific context. This is all the more important in the context of the triple planetary crises and the rise in climate migration.[39] National governments, international organizations, and donors must support these on-the-ground efforts to address the lack of resources and capacities. Technical expertise and knowledge should be offered to help vulnerable communities develop concrete data pools that can strengthen strategy building, for instance, for adaptation and resilience to mitigate the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation on local populations, migrants, displaced persons and territories.

There is a pressing need to develop mechanisms that decolonize the data collection process and ensure that the privacy and rights of the individual are ensured. Recognizing diverse sources of knowledge is crucial for grounded and effective solutions, where migrants' skills and local knowledge, along with that of the rest of the local communities, play a valuable role in devising local solutions for sustainable development. More specifically, this involves including affected communities at different stages of the data collection process. This may be done by adopting a bottom-up approach, which includes, firstly, prioritizing collective and collaborative data dissemination techniques using local languages and with local agents. Adopting a child-friendly and an age- and youth-centered approach contributes to bridging the digital divide that obstructs the data collection and dissemination process: including terminology and audio-visual components accessible to all, with exceptional care for children and youth with disabilities, is one of the necessary steps to take. All in all, balancing data protection, transparency and human rights needs to be put at the core of action as it becomes more challenging with the evolving landscape of technology, big data and concerns related to misinformation and data access related immigration policies.

When steps are taken towards improving data collection and analysis, it is also important to take account of several considerations. For example, fatigue among migrants and refugees arises due to numerous institutions approaching them for data collection.. In addition, alongside data, compelling narratives and stories about migrants and from migrants themselves are indispensable to place human beings at the heart of action.

Leveraging the potential of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), alongside Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) and Voluntary Subnational Reviews (VSRs) at the local level, can help address these challenges and bridge the data gap. Through these reporting processes, stakeholders can ensure comprehensive measurement of migration issues in their complexity and assessment of progress at forums like the HLPF. Several inspiring practices can be mentioned that help bridge the data gap: for example, in Senegal's Sedhiou region, a method was implemented to develop territorial migration data profiles, enhancing the understanding of migratory dynamics in six municipalities.[40] Noteworthy examples of

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[39] IOM, Mecanismos y fuentes de datos sobre movilidad humana en contexto de cambio climático, desastres y degradación ambiental en América del Sur, 2024. https://robuenosaires.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbdl626/files/documents/2024-02/oim_mecc_mecanismos-y-fuentes-de-datos-sobre-movilidad-humana-en-contexto-de-cambio-climatico-desastres-y-degradacion-ambiental-en-america-del-sur_spa_toprintenbaja_0.pdf.

[40] GFMD, Focused Input to the 2023 Thematic Review of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), 2023. https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2023/HLPF%202023%20Inputs%20GFMD.pdf.

progress and challenges in human mobility within the sustainable development framework include Kenya's 2023 VSR[41] and Buenos Aires' 2023 VLR.[42]

4. Policy recommendations

In the face of the challenges and progress identified above, specific policy recommendations are offered to expedite migration's contributions to the SDGs and, in particular, to reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions.

4.1 Policy recommendation 1: Foster a paradigm shift that puts migrants and human rights at the core of sustainable development

Throughout the discussions at the GFMD, a prevailing perception emerges that certain segments of society and political decision-makers often reduce migrants to mere economic resources for territories, thereby overlooking their humanity and dignity. This narrow perspective, devoid of a human rights-based, empathetic, and people-centered approach, fails to comprehend the intricacies of migration, especially in the face of global challenges. Therefore, it is more imperative than ever to foster a change of paradigm that involves adopting a rights- and developmental based, intersectional approach to human mobility that acknowledges the multifaceted aspects of migration.

Essential steps toward a more empathetic and inclusive approach involve listening to migrants' stories, understanding their subjective realities and emotional nuances without presuming their motives for leaving home, and validating their experiences. The international community must shift from viewing migration merely as a phenomenon to be "managed" to recognizing it as a transformative force inherent to one single humanity with one single development agenda.

The example of South Africa stands out, where the country has made significant strides, aligning with its constitution to ensure a human rights-based approach to migration in an era where conflicts, corruption and now climate change are triggering mobility. Cities like Durban are concurrently ensuring universal access to legal and political frameworks. The necessary change of paradigm entails opening up to diverse voices. This also includes supporting Global South countries, whether as countries of origin, transit or destination of migrants, and their legitimate demand for broader participation in global fora.

When disaggregated data exists, it offers a lucid panorama of the diverse realities of migrants. A great deal of migrants nowadays are youth: indeed, refugee youth aged 15 to 24 years comprise approximately 35% of the total refugee population.[43] If we focus on promoting gender equality (SDG 5), we need to be aware that the vulnerabilities faced by migrant women, especially in non-safe and irregular pathways, lead to exploitation and violence, emphasizing the urgency to address these issues. While the proportion of male victims is rising, the majority of those trafficked for sexual

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[41] Council of Governors, Voluntary Sub-National Review (VSR) in the Process of Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Counties. The Kenyan Experience, 2023. https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/uploaded/kenya_2023.pdf.

[42] Buenos Aires, Voluntary Local Review 2023. Localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Buenos Aires City, 2023. https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/buenos_aires_2023_en.pdf.

[43] UN-Habitat Youth, "Youth, Migration and Displacement", 2023. https://www.unhabitatyouth.org/en/migration-and-displacement/.

exploitation have historically been women.[44] 27% of migrant women leaving Afghanistan left because of domestic violence as the main reason. 60-80% of migrant women traveling through Mexico to the US are raped at some stage of the journey. 90% of women crossing the Mediterranean to Italy are raped. 60% of detected victims of trafficking are migrants.[45]

A human rights-based perspective on migration thus demands avoiding the essentialization of migrants and applying an intersectional lens to capture the diverse realities and lived experiences of different groups and individuals. **As a global community, we must develop with one single development agenda grounded in a rights, development and intersectional inclusivity, and which takes into consideration the particular circumstances, roles and capabilities of migrants in all the spheres of life.**

4.2 Policy recommendation 2: Meaningfully involve local and regional governments, civil society, the private sector, diaspora and the youth through efficient whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to embracing migration and sustainability

While national governments hold the sovereign right to manage borders, local stakeholders play a crucial role in fostering a more comprehensive, ground level understanding of migration. Local stakeholders possess a unique capacity to engage with and comprehend not only the objective but also the subjective aspects of migration. They can facilitate urban and territorial plans and strategies that are genuinely participatory, embracing migration as a catalyst for culture, diversity, richness, tolerance, and understanding.

Close collaboration between national local, and regional levels through effective whole-of-government and whole-of-society mechanisms must be implemented to rescue the SDGs and strengthen the links between migration and development. This must:

- Empower local leaders and directly involve communities, cities, and rural governments is essential if we are to come up with bold, innovative development solutions that cater for the needs and aspirations of migrant and host communities.
- In addition to local actors, and in order to formulate progressive and effective policies, that encourage collaboration and partnership, regional processes have an essential role to play. RCP's or regional consultative processes hold the benefit of providing a holistic view of a migrants journey and contributes in shaping more responsive policies. For example, the Abu Dhabi Dialogue, a consultative process bringing together governments from labour sending and labour receiving countries, has been pivotal in discussions surrounding labour mobility governance in the region and succeeded in bridging the gaps within the Asia-GCC corridor to better respond to the gaps and challenges.
- Meaningfully engage civil society organizations, including youth organizations, in order to tape into important grassroots knowledge and advocacy, and ensure that the voices of those directly affected by migration are heard and considered in policy formulation.
- Ensure that the private sector, academia, and businesses become actively involved in shaping migration policies, leveraging their resources and expertise to contribute positively to sustainable development. The business community can play a crucial role in creating

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[44] CTDC, "Human Trafficking and Gender: Differences, Similarities and Trends", n.d.
https://www.ctdatacollaborative.org/story/human-trafficking-and-gender-differences-similarities-and-trends.
[45] Data shared by Inkeri von Hase, Global Coordinator, Making Migration Safe for Women, UN Women, at the GFMD's Platform for Partnerships session on 24 January 2024.

employment opportunities for migrants, fostering economic growth, and promoting social integration.

- Engage diaspora communities to tap into a valuable resource of skills, networks, and cultural understanding, facilitating a more comprehensive and nuanced approach to migration.
- Meaningfully involve the youth to ensure that the perspectives of the next generation are taken into account, fostering innovation and sustainable solutions.
- Embrace a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach ensures that migration policies are not only comprehensive but also reflective of the diverse needs and aspirations of the communities involved.

4.3 Policy recommendation 3: Leverage the HLPF as a platform for international cooperation that will set the scene for the upcoming global events to address the complexities of migration and encourage actionable dialogue and bold solutions for inclusive and equitable responses to migration challenges in the evolving global landscape

As we discuss migration and development within the GFMD, efforts are being made to bring these topics to the attention of other platforms to make sure that we achieve our objectives. The GFMD has proved to be a very important avenue to ensure the integration of policy agendas globally. While there is a visible need for collaboration amongst the different sectors involved in finding solutions to the challenges of human mobility (science, governmental officials, the private sector, civil society, youth etc.), the GFMD is a unique global space that provides the necessary spaces and unites the different knowledges, views and perspectives of all parties interested in migration issues. The HLPF, as a central platform for monitoring and reviewing the progress of the SDGs, can serve as a catalyst for enhancing global efforts in addressing migration challenges and strategically mainstreaming migration considerations across various policy domains. **The GFMD should inspire the UN ECOSOC, HLPF convener, to ensure the organization of specific sessions within the HLPF agenda dedicated to reviewing the progress, solutions and challenges related to migration; the mainstreaming of migration debates in the sessions focused on the SDGs under review; the fostering of partnerships, capacity building and knowledge exchange, and the participation of migrants, LRGs, civil society organizations and other key actors working in this field to take part of the discussions.**

Mainstreaming migration in the HLPF agenda, and ensuring its inclusion in the Pact for the Future, will amplify the importance of migration as a cross-cutting issue also in other agendas of critical importance in 2024-2025, such as the G20 agenda, the 30 anniversary UNFPA's International Conference on Population and Development, the Summit of the Future and the Social Summit, which will build on the momentum of the milestone for multilateralism reform. During the GFMD, a widespread consensus emerged to collaborate along these lines under the leadership of the incoming Colombian Chair of the GFMD. Only this way will we foster a more integrated and effective approach to sustainable development in the framework of a more inclusive and renewed multilateral system, promoting migration as an engine for development, increasing social cohesion and integration, and reducing inequalities and vulnerabilities.

Annex

Overview of GFMD Platform for Partnerships entries related to SDG 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17

Title	Summary	Relevant SDG[46]
Afghanistan Resilience Trust Fund ARTF	The Afghanistan Resilience Trust Fund (ARTF) is a multi-donor trust fund that coordinates international aid to improve the lives of Afghans. It is administered by the World Bank and currently supported by thirty-two donor partners. Since 2022, the ARTF has taken a programmatic approach to provide focused support for essential basic services and livelihoods for the Afghan people through United Nations (UN) agencies and selected nongovernmental organization (NGO) partners.	SDG 1
I Yeke Oko Project	Funded by the Agence française de développement (AFD), the I Yeke Oko project aims to promote peace between populations and territorial cohesion in Cameroon and the Central African Republic, by helping to strengthen local governance, consolidate social ties and boost the rural economy. In this project, displaced persons in Cameroon and Central African Republic are engaging in sustainable land and agro-pastoral management.	SDG 1 SDG 16
Tyre and Zürich: Improving Local Services for Migrants, Refugees, and the Local Population through City-to-City Cooperation	The City of Tyre in Lebanon has committed to partner with the City of Zürich to improve services for migrants, refugees and locals in Tyre. This partnership aims to increase municipal staffing and expertise, conduct technical knowledge and best practices exchanges, while jointly implementing inclusive projects for Tyre's inhabitants, including Syrian and Palestinian refugees. Building on earlier successful projects, Tyre is now designing two projects as part of the partnership. First, a "park and ride" service with a parking lot and bus shuttle system to provide refugees, migrant workers, and local communities with cheap and reliable public transportation to access the city's facilities and commuting zones, while contributing to the city's green transition.	SDG 1 SDG 2 SDG 16 SDG 17

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[46] "The annex exclusively addresses the relevant targets being reviewed during the HLPF 2024. It is important to note that while examples may be associated with other SDGs, they are not included in the annex of this report.

Durable Qaddura – Renovating Waste Management and a Public Park in the Qaddura Refugee Camp, Ramallah	The Municipality of Ramallah commits to upgrading Qaddura Refugee Camp's solid waste management system, rehabilitating its public park, and launching an awareness campaign about environmental stewardship for families living in the camp. Ramallah's project will be implemented in partnership with refugee leaders from Qaddura, ensuring that the reforms create a clean, safe, and welcoming environment for all residents.	SDG 1 SDG 13 SDG 16
Nyamagabe District Building Communities Resilience to Climate Variability	Nyamagabe District commits to build community resilience and adaptive capacity for people living in Nyamagabe and the nearby Kigeme refugee camp whose lives and livelihoods are severely impacted by floods, landslides, and droughts. In collaboration with UNHCR Rwanda, Nyamagabe is terracing hillsides prone to landslides into viable agricultural areas, converting waste into renewable energy, and providing basic infrastructure and utilities for additional residential plots. These environmentally friendly livelihood opportunities, coupled with training on climate-smart agricultural practices, contribute to enhancing the living conditions of both displaced individuals and Rwandan residents in Nyamagabe, while bolstering food security, improving resettled housing options, and mitigating exposure to natural hazards.	SDG 1 SDG 2 SDG 14 SDG 17
Making Migration Work for Sustainable Development M4SD IOMUNDP joint global programme	The M4SD Programme (2019-2023) aimed to harness the development benefits and reduce the negative effects of migration for host and home communities, migrants, and their family members. A key component of this Programme was to showcase how inclusive policies can be implemented locally and how the results contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The Programme has worked to make communities more inclusive and to create new opportunities for over 14,000 migrants and community members across eleven countries so that everyone can thrive, and no one is left behind in the quest for global prosperity.	SDG 1 SDG 2 SDG 17
Boosting Green Employment and Enterprise Opportunities in Ghana	In sub-Saharan Africa and in particular in Ghana, adverse drivers of migration include natural and human-made crises, rural poverty, food insecurity, inequality, unemployment, lack of social protection as well as natural resources depletion due to environmental degradation and climate change, which are some underlying causes of out migration. The project aims at creating greater economic and employment opportunities for youth, women and returning migrants by promoting and supporting sustainable, green businesses in selected regions (Ashanti and Western). GrEEn is implemented under the European Union Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa.	SDG 1 SDG 13 SDG 17

Leveraging on remittances to drive financial inclusion in rural Ghana though an innovative financial literacy scheme	IFAD is partnering with Fidelity Bank Ghana under the PRIME Africa initiative to enable remittance recipients in high-migration rural areas to increase their share of remittances saved in formal bank accounts. Remittance recipients without proximity to a bank branch end up having to foot costly journeys to cash out their remittances. By targeting un(der)banked remittance recipients, Fidelity Bank will enable termination of remittances directly into a savings account. As a result, rural customers will incur lower costs and will save time and expenses as a result of not having to travel long distances. Fidelity Bank is uniquely positioned to support a sustainable shift from cash-based remittances to digital account based transfers in rural areas due to its network of 5,000 agents across the country.	SDG 1 SDG 2 SDG 17
Promotion of Decent Work Opportunities for the Economic Empowerment of Vulnerable Segments of Society	Decent Work is a measure to reduce poverty and inequalities in the society. This project proposed three distinct sets of interventions to promote decent work opportunities in Pakistan for vulnerable groups including Child and Bonded Labourers in Brick Kiln Sector, Social Protection; and engaging Pakistani diaspora in Italy.	SDG 1
Strengthening Capacity to Harness the Positive Effects of Migration	The overall objective of the project is to contribute to poverty reduction and inclusive rural transformations in Uganda, through the creation of decent employment opportunities in rural areas prone to outmigration, while promoting migration as a climate adaptation strategy. Specifically, the project aims to support governments and rural stakeholders to adopt and implement policies and strategies that promote sustainable alternatives to migration for rural youth, empower family members that stay behind, harness the contributions of migrants and diaspora to rural livelihoods, and support prospective and return migrants	SDG 1 SDG 2
Diaspora Agro Business Award	Migrants and diaspora communities play a vital role in agri-food systems. Diaspora organizations support food security and rural development in their countries of origin, through investments, transfer of knowledge and skills, and contribution to employment generation in rural areas. The Diaspora Agro Business Award by the Ugandan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with support from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), thus serves to recognize diaspora "agripreneurs" contributing to agrifood employment opportunities in countries of origin.	SDG 2
Piloting digital learning on agri-food business and environmental informatics in Ethiopia	Ethiopia is highly dependent on agriculture for its economy, as well as for the day-to-day subsistence of its citizens. Wollo University in Dessie has been one of the most ambitious in the country in testing learning solutions around agriculture and implementing projects aimed to prepare its graduates for the job market in key	SDG 2

	sectors, including agriculture.Through a Diaspora Professionals 4 Development (DP4D) action with EUDiF, five Ethiopian diaspora professionals are helping Wollo University to develop its first digital curriculum on agri-food business and innovation technology. The global Covid-19 pandemic and national crisis have tested the capacities of the university and put many initiatives on hold. In the face of this, Wollo University, EUDiF and the team of diaspora professionals remain fully committed to offering post-crisis support and to tailoring said support to the current needs	
International Young Farmers' Exchange Program (IYFEP) between Uganda and Germany	The Young Farmers' Federation of Uganda (UNYFA) in partnership with the Schorlemer Foundation of the German Farmers' Association (DBV) have set up the International Young Farmers Exchange Program. Together they organize a three-month stay on a host farm in Germany or Uganda in two exchange rounds (April - June, August to October) for up to seventy young farmers in order to carry out a professional and cultural exchange. This practical experience is accompanied by a three-part seminar series in cooperation with the Andreas Hermes Academy (AHA)	SDG 2 SDG 17
Rising Nations Initiative RNI	As the climate crisis deepens, low-lying countries are witnessing significant amounts of their territory being rendered uninhabitable, with some facing the prospect of complete inundation from rising sea level. For many Small Island Developing States, this represents a catastrophic threat to their political, social, economic and cultural fabric and the Pacific Atoll countries are at the frontline of this global climate emergency. The Rising Nations Initiative (RNI) aims to protect the statehood of Pacific Atoll countries, preserve their sovereignty and safeguard the rights and heritage of affected populations. The Rising Nations Initiative was launched by the Pacific Atoll Heads of States in 2021, supported by a core group of champion countries. It is enabled by the Global Center for Climate Mobility, which is a partnership of UN Member States, relevant agencies of the UN system, the World Bank and respective regional intergovernmental organizations to address climate-forced migration and displacement. Through programmes that include culture and heritage, futures & adaption, and youth empowerment, the RNI catalyses global action and mobilizes international support to Pacific countries and communities at the frontline of the climate crisis.	SDG 13 SDG 17
The Greater Caribbean Climate Mobility Initiative (GCCMI)	The Greater Caribbean Climate Mobility Initiative (GCCMI) was officially launched in September 2022 to set out a common agenda, informed by robust evidence, for addressing climate mobility across the Greater Caribbean region. The GCCMI is a joint	SDG 13 SDG 17

	undertaking coordinated by the Global Centre for Climate Mobility and the Association of Caribbean States, bringing together twenty-five countries, amongst them numerous Small Island Developing States, whose people are most at risk from the impacts of sea level rise and other climate related stressors. The initiative's partners include the World Bank, the UN Development Programme, the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).	
The Africa Climate Mobility Initiative (ACMI)	The Africa Climate Mobility Initiative is a people-centred and evidence-based Initiative, aiming to generate political momentum around a common policy agenda and to mobilise resources for the implementation of comprehensive and locally anchored solutions to address climate mobility.The Africa Climate Mobility Initiative's cornerstones are knowledge-building, connecting and empowering change agents and accelerating policy and project implementation underpinned by strategic partnerships.	SDG 13 SDG 17
Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility	Over the course of three years, PICs under the Pacific Climate Change Migration and Human Security programme (PCCMHS) have been actively engaging in an ambitious exercise to develop a regional collaboration framework on human mobility as a result of climate change.The Pacific Climate Mobility Framework will provide a coordinated approach to climate induced human mobility in the Pacific region, taking into account the unique socio-cultural, economic, and environmental contexts of PICs	SDG 13 SDG 17
Kampala Ministerial Declaration on Migration, Environment and Climate Change for Eastern and Horn of Africa State	The Kampala Ministerial Declaration on Migration, Environment, and Climate Change (KDMECC) outlines twelve commitments by its signatory countries to address the effects of climate change on human mobility in the East and Horn of Africa region. KDMECC was adopted in July 2022 during a High-Level Inter-Ministerial Conference on Migration, Environment, and Climate Change (MECC) in Kampala, Uganda, geared towards developing an integrated approach to climate change-induced mobility across the region and contributing to raising the important topic of human mobility in the context of climate change, at the global level for serious consideration, such as at the Conference of the Parties (COPs) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).	SDG 13 SDG 17
Planned Relocation Guidelines	Implemented in the Solomon Islands, these Guidelines provide for the voluntary, planned and coordinated movement of people to suitable locations, away from risk-	SDG 13

	prone areas, where they can enjoy their rights under customary, national and international law, fulfilment of which is necessary for relocation to be durable. The Guidelines establish a framework for decision-making, planning and undertaking relocation in accordance with the principles in key regional and international frameworks that provide guidance for relocation, as applicable to the context of Solomon Islands.	
Vanuatu Climate change and disaster-induced displacement policy	Vanuatu is one of the first countries regionally and globally to prepare a comprehensive policy on internal displacement stemming from disasters and climate change which includes recommended actions on return and reintegration, local integration and planned relocation, as well as integrating human mobility into development planning across	SDG 13
Climate Prosperity Plan in Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka's Climate Prosperity Plan aims to maximise socio-economic outcomes and wellbeing for the population of Sri Lanka. To do so, the strategy focuses on unlocking the maximum domestic renewable energy potential and enhancing resilience through nature-based solutions and financial protection.	SDG 13
Migrants4Climate (M4C) Award	The Migrants4Climate (M4C) Award 2023 was launched in 2022 at the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27) in Egypt. It has been organized by the GFMD 2022-2023 French Chair, the Ghanaian Chair of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). This Award aims to give visibility to initiatives led by or - inclusive of and targeting - migrants and diaspora and features a strong engagement in climate action and environmental sustainability. The first laureate, Benin's Projet Route De La Jacinthe D'Eau is led by the Non-Governmental Organization Youth and Green Jobs for a Green Economy (Jeunesse et Emplois Verts pour une Economie Verte -JEVEV)	SDG 13 SDG 17
Diaspora 4 Climate Action (D4C)	The D4C initiative is funded by the IOM Development Fund and capitalizes on the dynamic link between diaspora communities and their home countries to enhance responses to climate change. It strategically focuses on priority sectors in four countries: Moldova, Bangladesh, Ghana, and Jamaica.The D4C initiative seeks to leverage the invaluable contributions that diasporas can offer in advancing comprehensive climate plans and actions through meaningful partnerships with governments, civil society, and other stakeholders. Beyond its immediate impact, the	SDG 13 SDG 17

	project's accomplishment lies in its potential to trigger a shift in global approaches to climate challenges.	
CLIMB Database	The CLIMB Database on Human Mobility in the Context of Disasters, Climate Change and Environmental Degradation (UNNM, 2023), compiles over 1578 national policy instruments in 172 countries and over 230 bilateral and/or regional policy instruments between 140s and 2022 across sectors of human mobility, disasters, climate change and sustainable development. This database shows the increasingly higher extent of references and provisions to the distinct dimensions of human mobility in the context of disasters, climate change, and environmental degradation in existing and diverse policies.	SDG 13
C40 Cities and the Mayors Migration Council: Fostering Global Recognition and Support for Local Action on the urban dimension of climate migration	Building on the leadership of the C40-MMC Global Mayors Task Force on Climate & Migration, C40 Cities (C40) and the Mayors Migration Council (MMC) pledge to accelerate global recognition and support for local action on the urban dimension of climate migration - a key under recognised dimension of Loss & Damage - through 2025. Building from the C40 report "Urban Loss & Damage: Challenges and Opportunities for City Leadership", which sets out a collective vision of how global actors can successfully support existing city leadership, including on climate migration, C40 will: 1. Continue to support a shared understanding of the urban dimension of climate migration and displacement; 2. Scale up mayoral advocacy - shifting policy and finance outcomes in both the climate and migration diplomatic space; 3. Advance the efforts to drive the development and delivery of dedicated programming and funding that is locally-led, demand-driven and fit for urban needs.	SDG 13 SDG 17
Australia-Tuvalu Falepili Union	The Australia-Tuvalu Falepili Union comprises a bilateral treaty between Tuvalu and Australia, as well as a commitment articulated in a joint leaders' statement to uplift their broader bilateral partnership. The Falepili Union includes Australian support for Tuvalu's climate adaptation interests and establishing a special visa arrangement for Tuvaluan citizens to live, work and study in Australia	SDG 13 SDG 16 SDG 17
Risk Models Disaster Displacement	A number of UN agencies and partners established a Joint Programme funded under the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) to improve regional and national migration governance in the context of the adverse impacts of climate change and environmental degradation. To enhance this governance, evidence is key. The Joint Programme has therefore supported these studies. Among the sudden onset hazards	SDG 13

	that are relevant in determining such displacement figures in the IGAD region, floods and cyclones play an important role. As such, disaster displacement risk models were developed for cyclones (Somalia) and floods (IGAD region).	
Establishment of the National Council on Climate Change	The Council provides a sustainable policy framework and an enabling environment for climate change action in Nigeria, in order to regularly update information regarding national greenhouse gas emission, mitigation options, vulnerability assessment and adaptation measures to the impacts of climate change	SDG 13
Project to Avert Minimize and Address Disaster Displacement	The Project to Avert, Minimize and Address Disaster Displacement (PAMAD) aims to develop a better understanding of displacement in the context of losses and damages associated with climate change and support measures aimed at averting, minimizing and addressing displacement and its impacts for vulnerable people and communities.	SDG 13
Lancaster Welcomes: Embracing Diversity with a Strategic Welcome Plan for Immigrants and Refugees	The city of Lancaster in Pennsylvania, United States commits to institutionalize the "Welcoming Plan for the City of Lancaster" through policy, legislation, and programming. The city is now developing pathways to institutionalize a Welcoming Plan for the City of Lancaster through policy, legislation, and programming. The Department of Neighborhood Engagement will be charged with the oversight of the Welcoming Standard.	SDG 16 SDG 17
Migrant Rights Database	The Migrants Rights Database is a rigorous empirical account of laws protecting the human rights of all migrants and the cross-national implementation that helps them flourish. Representing seven years of work by some one hundred lawyers, the resource charts sixty-five indicators with citation to law in thirty-six countries hosting seventy percent of the world's migrants, and it will soon be expanded to include forty-five country cases.	SDG 16
Nilüfer Municipality's "House of the Exchange of Populations" Museum	The Municipality of Nilüfer commits to promote cultural diversity and co-existence through the "House of the Exchange of Populations" museum. Founded by the municipality and local associations, this museum commemorates the displacement of 1.5 million people following the Treaty of Lausanne in 1923 and preserves the history and folk culture of the region's communities.Nilüfer is home to diverse cultural identities stemming from historical displacement in the region and Balkan immigration. The museum champions cultural diversity, enriches local understanding of differences, encourages social harmony and participation in cultural, political, and artistic movements, especially by civil society and women's groups. It facilitates	SDG 16

	exchanges between people affected by war and forced migration in Turkey and in Greece, and provides a space that questions nationalistic approaches while allowing for discussions on identity, personal and collective memory.	
Guayaquil's Centro Municipal Ciudadanos Integrados: Holistic Support for People and Children on the Move	The City of Guayaquil commits to open a welcoming center for migrants and refugees in the city's busiest transit hub. The center will provide migrants, refugees, and Ecuadorian returnees coming into the city with legal assistance, access to education and job opportunities, psychosocial support, and a safe space for children's play and development. It will seek to improve the integration and well-being of this vulnerable population, addressing their specific needs and promoting their social inclusion. It is expected to reduce inequalities, promote gender equality, guaranteeing the protection and empowerment of children and adolescents in situations of human mobility. It is also expected to strengthen alliances and with cooperation agencies at national and international levels, as well as with other organizations and relevant actors in the territory. This initiative will contribute to building a more inclusive, equitable and prosperous city in Guayaquil, where all people have equal opportunities and can enjoy a dignified life. The project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.	SDG 1 SDG 16 SDG 17
Legal empowerment of migrants	The project funded by the European Union and implemented by Enabel in partnership with the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry delegated to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans residing there foreigner, responsible for Moroccans living abroad (MCMRE) will strengthen access to the rights of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in Morocco by consolidating knowledge on the rights of these populations, by promoting networking and coordination of different actors, by supporting the production of scientific thematic data and the sharing of information on access to rights and finally, by facilitating the exchange of information and recommendations between all the actors concerned with a view to contributing to the adaptation of the tools and service structures to meet the identified needs of migrant populations	SDG 16