EMPOWER MIGRANTS AND SOCIETIES TO REALIZE FULL INCLUSION AND SOCIAL COHESION

16 INCLUSION AND SOCIAL COHESION

Associated actions

a. **Promote mutual respect for the cultures, traditions and customs of communities of destination and of migrants** by exchanging and implementing best practices on integration policies, programmes and activities, including on ways to promote acceptance of diversity and facilitate social cohesion and inclusion

b. **Establish comprehensive and needs-based pre-departure and post-arrival programmes** that may include rights and obligations, basic language training, as well as orientation about social norms and customs in the country of destination

c. **Develop national short, medium and long term policy goals regarding the inclusion of migrants in societies,** including on labour market integration, family reunification, education, non-discrimination and health, including by fostering partnerships with relevant stakeholders

d. **Work towards inclusive labour markets and full participation of migrant workers in the formal economy** by facilitating access to decent work and employment for which they are most qualified, in accordance with local and national labour market demands and skills supply

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e. **Empower migrant women by eliminating gender-based discriminatory restrictions** on formal employment, ensuring the right to freedom of association, and facilitating access to relevant basic services, as measures to promote their leadership and guarantee their full, free and equal participation in society and the economy

f. **Establish community centres or programmes at the local level to facilitate migrant participation in the receiving society** by involving migrants, community members, diaspora organizations, migrant associations, and local authorities in intercultural dialogue, sharing of stories, mentorship programmes, and development of business ties that improve integration outcomes and foster mutual respect

g. **Capitalize on the skills, cultural and language proficiency of migrants and receiving communities** by developing and promoting peer-to-peer training exchanges, gender-responsive, vocational and civic integration courses and workshops

h. **Support multicultural activities through sports, music, arts, culinary festivals, volunteering and other social events** that will facilitate mutual understanding and appreciation of migrant cultures and those of destination communities

i. **Promote school environments that are welcoming and safe, and support the aspirations of migrant children** by enhancing relationships within the school community, incorporating evidence-based information about migration in education curricula, and dedicating targeted resources to schools with a high concentration of migrant

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children for integration activities in order to promote respect for diversity and inclusion, and to prevent all forms discrimination, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance

Local governments

Local governments play a major role in supporting the inclusion process at the first stage of migrants' arrival, for example:

- The Migration Department of the City of Sao Paulo provides language courses to migrants with a view to helping them navigate municipal services and their social inclusion process (City of Sao Paulo, n.d.).

- The City of Gwangju, South Korea has focused on fostering migrants' empowerment and participation in the host society from a human rights-based point of view. It has addressed structural barriers within the administration and established concrete mechanisms for denouncing human rights violations in this context, thanks to its various local ombudsman and a local human rights committee. The city also has an international centre that offers language courses and opportunities for socializing (Kim, 2019).

- In the United Kingdom, local authorities facilitate immediate access to a 15 hours/week education programme (including English, Math, Science, Music,

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Art, Physical Education, and Personal, Social, Health and Economic education) to unaccompanied children. The programme has been shown to foster interaction and relationship building with host community students (UNICEF UK, 2018).

▪ There are many other examples of national and local governments around the world who are promoting the inclusion of migrant and displaced children in their communities (UNICEF, 2018; 2019).

Colombia's income generation strategy for migrants

The Colombian government, with the support of UNDP, designed and implemented an income generation strategy for migrants from Venezuela and host communities. The strategy aims in particular to facilitate migrants' access to labour markets while encouraging investments in training and education programmes to increase migrants' employment opportunities and reduce skills mismatches. It also seeks to promote entrepreneurship among migrants and host communities, strengthen the financial inclusion of the Venezuelan population and overcome specific obstacles faced by both migrant women and indigenous and Afro-descendant communities.

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Relevant sustainable development goals

SDG 4: Quality education

▪**4.7:** By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development

SDG 5: Gender Equality

▪**5.5:** Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

▪**10.2:** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

▪**10.7:** Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies

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SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities

▪**11.b:** By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels"

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

▪**16.7:** Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

▪**16.b:** Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development

SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

▪**17:18:** By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts