

## **IFAD intervention during session 1 of the GCM UNECE Regional Review**

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On behalf of IFAD, I would like to provide updates particularly on remittances as per their respective objective 20 of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

As you all know, Remittances are a crucial aspect of migrants' financial contribution to their countries of origin and a vital source of income for millions of individuals and families across the world.

As the Secretary General put it, these flows represents a lifeline in the developing world, allowing migrants' families to fight poverty and improve their access to nutrition, health, education, housing, water and sanitation. In short, to achieve their own SDGs.

Steady flows of remittances also promote the financial inclusion of households, as the productive use of these funds positively impact local communities through savings, investments and job creation.

While the flow of remittances has constantly and considerably grew of the years, the covid-19 pandemic has once again tested the determination of the people behind these flows and putting at risk the GCM objective 20.

Unlike previous crises, the economic impact and scale of current events is simultaneously affecting international and domestic migrants who send remittances from high-income areas and their families living in developing countries, where it is estimated that a decline between 10 to 15 per cent will occur for 2020 and 2021.

In light of this, the UN Secretary-General called for an urgent and coordinated strategy on COVID-19 and remittances.

IFAD, through its Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development (GFRID), which is included in the GCM objective 20/b, responded to the call and launched the Remittance Community Task Force (RCTF), a coordinated and comprehensive effort aimed at addressing the economic and social challenges confronting migrant workers and their families as a result of this crisis.

This effort has benefited greatly from the active participation of 40 key task force members, including experts from the UN system, governments, the remittance industry, and the civil society.

The Task Force has now finalized its "REPOSE RECOVERY AND RESILIENSE'S BLUE PRINT ON REMITTANCE".

The report includes a set of short and medium-term measures directed to governments, regulators, and remittance service providers.

These addresses:

- **Remittance Families** (migrants and their Families back home)

- **Services Providers and the Digitalization of flows, and the**
- **Enabling environment**

These recommendations are intended to be actionable responses to a crisis that is having a dramatic effect on the economic stability and health of millions of families around the globe and are already contributing to several global processes.

In particular:

- Have served as basis for the menu of options for the consideration of Heads of State and Government within the **Financing for development Process in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond**.
- Have also been shared with the members of the G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPII) and will contribute to the discussions on remittances under the upcoming Italian presidency in 2021.
- Are contributing to the discussions within the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

In conclusion, At IFAD we are pleased to report that much is underway:

- We are supporting to address the lack of data, particularly in Africa, through in depth analysis and research, which will ultimately feed the RemitSCOPE webportal.
- We are promoting private sector response with the financing of initiatives bridging innovation as long-term solution
- Through the GFRID, as stated in the objective 20, we are working with our colleagues in the UN, G20, governments on the receiving end, and the industry to ensure that the global response involves both the sending and receiving side of the remittance equation.

Thank you