

Champion countries initiative

Information Note

What is the Initiative?: The Champion countries initiative is a voluntary collective of Member States committed to promoting effective GCM implementation, follow-up and review. It provides space for Member States, working with the Network, to exchange and share insights, lessons learned and promising practices and accelerate actions for the achievement of the objectives of the GCM, its vision and guiding principles.

Launched in 2020, the Champion countries community has grown in size – now standing at 35 Member States across the globe – and in dynamism, playing a critical role in demonstrating support for the GCM, noteworthy by having galvanized support for International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) preparations and by playing important and visible roles in delivering a highly successful first Forum.

Role of Champion countries: The Champion countries have been playing an active role mainly through:

- Generating key insights, lessons learned, and promising practices that can be shared in dedicated spaces amongst Champions and with other Member States and relevant stakeholders;
- Demonstrating support for the GCM, including through active engagement in multilateral processes on the GCM and forging links to relevant multilateral processes (e.g. HLPF); leading on peer-learning of good practices related to GCM implementation at national level; and facilitating collaborative efforts at regional and global levels, in line with the GCM vision and guiding principles;
- Advocating for and contributing to the Migration Network Hub by sharing their existing practices and experiences and promoting peer learning;
- Advocating for the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (Migration MPTF) to support international cooperation towards strengthened GCM implementation on the ground;
- Testing and providing feedback on GCM guidance material and tools, technical assistance, and other support provided by the Network and promoting wider distribution, dissemination of the guidance materials and tools, while contributing to the development of standard approaches in pilot phases moving forward;
- Galvanizing support for a productive process of GCM reviews at national, regional and global levels, through the regional reviews and the IMRF; and,
- Advocating for the implementation of the GCM through building a positive and evidence-based a migration narrative drawing from the objectives, values and principles of the GCM, increasing its visibility as a crucial framework for migration governance.

Following the first IMRF, the Champion countries has updated its plan to work together with a view to further deepen and expand the overall Member States' engagement in GCM.

Champion countries (as of 20 February 2024)

- Azerbaijan
- Bangladesh
- Cambodia
- Canada
- Chad
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Ethiopia
- the Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea Bissau
- Honduras
- Indonesia
- Iraq
- Kenya
- Luxembourg
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mexico
- Morocco
- Lesotho
- Nepal
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Panama
- Peru
- Philippines
- Portugal
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- Thailand
- Türkiye

For more information on the Initiative, please contact the UN Network secretariat: unmignet@iom.int.