

Objective of this booklet

This booklet aims to serve as a practical guide to implementing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) by exploring each of the 23 GCM objectives to break the Compact down into accessible parts with ideas for implementation.

In addition to serving as a stand-alone tool, this booklet compliments the guidance entitled "**Implementing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM): Guidance for governments and all relevant stakeholders**"

How to use this booklet

This booklet begins with a summary of the GCM's vision and guiding principles, which is followed by a short section on the importance of the 360-degree vision of the GCM. After that, users of this booklet will find a comprehensive list of international frameworks related to human rights and other global priorities. These frameworks should be seen as the landscape of international norms on which the GCM rests. Importantly, these norms and frameworks lay out the international rules and standards to which GCM implementation should adhere.

Following this list of frameworks, users will find 23 sections – one section for every GCM objective. Each of these will contain:

- **Associated actions, as outlined in the GCM**

These have been taken directly from the text of the GCM. Every objective comes with a list of actions that can be taken to achieve the objective.

- **Potential responses/concrete examples**

The examples provided in this booklet are neither exhaustive nor prescriptive. Examples should be considered as a preliminary snapshot which highlights positive elements of specific responses, but does not assess each practice comprehensively¹. These examples aim to demonstrate how GCM implementation is happening at multiple levels around the world in real time. When considering these examples, users should look to the examples as promising practices, and as efforts on which their own future actions might build or improve. While most of the examples are of State-led actions, some refer to actions carried out by non-governmental actors, such as civil society organizations.

- **Relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and international frameworks**

This section highlights Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and international frameworks of particular relevance to the GCM objective at hand.²

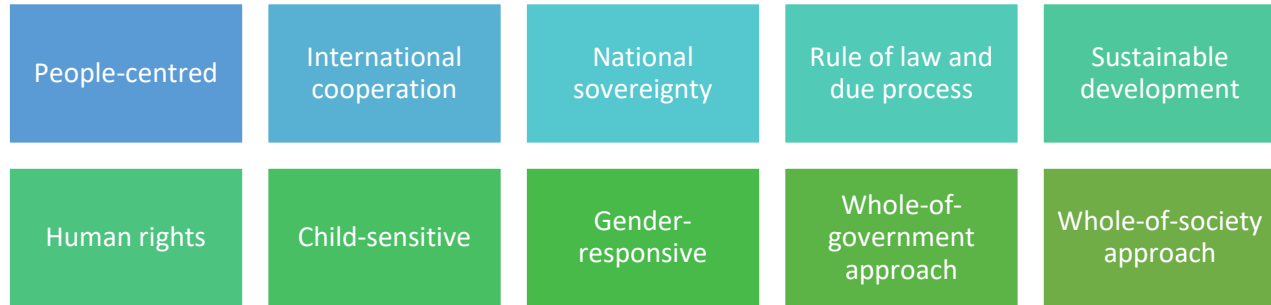
Throughout the GCM implementation process, two online tools will be particularly useful: the global knowledge platform and its connection hub. As called for in the GCM (para. 43), the **connection hub** aims to facilitate demand-driven, tailor-made and integrated solutions for actors implementing the GCM, while the **global knowledge platform** will serve as an online open data source. These platforms will be accessible from the [UNNM website](#), under the "Capacity Building Mechanism" tab.

¹ The inclusion of an example on the list does not signify that all elements of the response or practice of the country or stakeholder in question are considered positive, or that its practical implementation is flawless.

² Naming relevant SDG goals and targets is important for several reasons. First, the GCM is anchored in the SDGs, which were adopted in 2015, three years before the GCM's adoption. As such, many SDG-related actions that States have already started implementing are likely to contribute to GCM implementation. In addition to implementation processes, respective review, monitoring and reporting processes for the GCM and SDGs – namely, the national voluntary reviews to inform Regional Reviews and the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) for the GCM and the voluntary national reviews (VNRs) for the SDGs – can feed into and support each other. Second, as stated above, the GCM is founded upon a number of international norms and frameworks, that lay out the rules to which GCM implementation must comply.

Guiding principles of the GCM

The GCM is founded upon ten interdependent, cross-cutting principles (GCM, para. 15):



A 360-degree vision of international migration

In line with the GCM's 360-degree view of migration, the compact's 23 objectives illustrate a comprehensive, multidimensional approach to improving migration governance. Beyond considering migration in all its stages – origin, transit, destination and return – the 23 GCM objectives aim to address the adverse drivers of migration; the migration journeys themselves; the arrival and reception of migrants; migrants' opportunities for social and economic well-being in destination countries; and return, readmission and reintegration.

International frameworks underpinning the GCM

International human rights law and standards

The GCM rests on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and each of the nine core international human rights law treaties, which should be upheld throughout GCM implementation, follow-up and review. Further, human rights is one of the GCM's 10 guiding principles, upholding the principles of non-regression and non-discrimination.

When governments commit to implementing the GCM, they therefore also commit to ensuring the effective respect, protection and fulfilment of the human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, and during all stages of migration. As part of GCM implementation, governments are also called upon to eliminate all forms of discrimination against migrants and their families, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance (GCM, para. 15).

Human rights law instruments

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), 1948

Adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 December 1948 it serves as a common standard of achievement for peoples and nations all over the globe. The UDHR asserts the "inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family [which] is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world". It further affirms that "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights" (Article 1) and that "Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration" (Article 2).

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), 1966

Parties commit to respecting individuals' civil and political rights. These include the right to life and various freedoms (of assembly, speech and religion), the right to due process and a fair trial, and electoral rights.

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), 1966

Parties to the ICESCR commit to work towards respecting individuals' economic, social and cultural rights. These include labour rights as well as the rights to health, education and an adequate standard of living, including food, housing and water and sanitation.

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), 1965

Ratifying parties commit to eliminating racial discrimination, promoting understanding among races, criminalizing membership in racist organizations and outlawing hate speech. .

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), 1979

The convention is both an international bill of rights for women, as well as an agenda for action, requiring all parties to implement "all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on a basis of equality with men" (Article 3).

Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (UNCAT), 1984

The convention's objective is to prevent torture and other acts of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment around the globe. The convention commits parties to implement measures to prevent torture in territories under their jurisdiction, and forbids States from expelling, returning or extraditing a person to another State where there are substantial grounds for believing that he would be in danger of being subjected to torture.

Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989

196 countries have signed the convention, making it the most widely ratified human rights treaty in history. It lays out a framework for the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of children.

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, 1990

The ICRMW is the most comprehensive international treaty dealing with the rights of migrant workers and their families, migration regulation and inter-state cooperation on migration, Article 7 calls for the protection of migrant workers and their families, regardless of "sex, race, colour, language, religion or conviction, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, nationality, age, economic position, property, marital status, birth, or other status."

International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, 2006

The convention's objective is to prevent forced disappearance and crimes against humanity. The convention requires its ratifying parties to undertake a number of actions, among them investigating acts of enforced disappearance; ensuring that enforced disappearance is considered an offense under criminal law; cooperating with other States to prosecute and extradite offenders; and ensuring that victims of enforced disappearance have the right to request compensation and reparation.

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006

Other international conventions and frameworks

United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, also known as the Palermo Convention, (entering into force in 2003) which includes the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children whose parties commit to preventing and combatting trafficking in persons, engaging in cross-border cooperation, and providing assistance to trafficking victims (entering into force in 2003) and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air which aims to the protect the rights of migrants while reducing the influence and power of organized criminal bodies engaged in the abuse of migrants (entering into force in 2004).

Slavery Convention (entry into force in 1927) and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (entry into force on 1957),

Aim to accelerate the abolition of slavery and the slave trade.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

The convention entered into force in 2004 and represents a framework for national governments around the world to cooperate with one another to limit average global temperature increases and to cope with the inevitable impacts of climate change. Subsequent agreements – including in particular the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement – have stemmed from this.

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

This convention entered into force in 1996 and stemmed from a direct recommendation of the Rio Conference's Agenda 21. Its objective is to combat desertification and to mitigate the consequences of drought through the implementation of national interventions that integrate long-term strategies with a strong call for partnership, participation and decentralization.

Paris Agreement on Climate Change

The Paris Agreement entered into force in 2016 and is an instrument within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Building on the UNFCCC, the Paris Agreement gathers all nations around the common goal of undertaking ambitious actions to fight climate change and adapt to its consequences.

ILO conventions on promoting decent work and labour migration

- Migration for Employment Convention of 1949 (ILO Convention No. 97)
- Migrant Workers Convention of 1975 (ILO Convention No. 143)
- Equality of Treatment Convention of 1962 (ILO Convention No. 118)
- Convention on Decent Work for Domestic Workers of 2011 (ILO Convention No. 189)

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

This ambitious global framework was adopted by UN resolution in 2015 and came into effect on 1st January, 2016. It outlines 17 Sustainable Development Goals with 169 associated targets which States commit to achieving to ensure sustainable development for all with a focus on people, prosperity and planet. The 2030 Agenda recognizes migration as a core development consideration, which marks the first-time migration is integrated explicitly into the global development agenda. The Agenda is relevant to all mobile populations regardless of whether internal or cross border, displaced or not: "goals and targets will be met for all nations and peoples and all segments of society." It recognizes migrant women, men and children as a vulnerable group to be protected, and as agents of development.

Addis Ababa Action Agenda

Adopted at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, then subsequently endorsed by the UN General Assembly in July 2015, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda lays out an innovative framework for financing sustainable development through the alignment of financial flows and policies with social, economic and environmental priorities. Outlining a comprehensive series of policy actions – which touch on sources of finance, innovation, trade, data, debt and technology – the Action Agenda aims to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the Global Compact for Refugees:

The New York Declaration was adopted in 2016 by UN resolution at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants (the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants) It set out State commitments to fully protect the human rights of all refugees and migrants as rights-holders, regardless of their status and to devise responses to large-movements with full respect for international human rights law and other relevant standards which were to be outlined in the development of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees. The Global Compact on Migration was subsequently adopted in 2018 as the first-ever UN global agreement on a common approach to international migration in all its dimensions. The Global Compact for Refugees was adopted in 2018, acting as a framework for more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing, recognizing that a sustainable solution to refugee situations cannot be achieved without international cooperation. The GCM confirms that "The two global compacts, together, present complementary international cooperation frameworks that fulfil their respective mandates as laid out in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which recognizes that migrants and refugees may face many common challenges and similar vulnerabilities."

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030)

Adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai City in 2015, and subsequently endorsed by the UN General Assembly in June 2015, the Sendai Framework – acting hand in hand with the 2030 Agenda – presents a roadmap for enhancing the safety and resilience of our communities, including addressing disaster-induced human mobility. It is the first significant agreement of the post-2015 development agenda and lays out concrete steps for safeguarding development gains from the threat of disaster.

New Urban Agenda

Adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development in Quito on 20 October 2016, and subsequently endorsed by the UN General Assembly in December of 2016, the New Urban Agenda presents a collective vision for an increasingly sustainable future. It highlights how urbanization – if well-managed and well-planned – can serve as a powerful instrument for sustainable development, in both the Global North and Global South.

GCM Objective 1

Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) Elaborate and implement a comprehensive strategy for improving migration data at local, national, regional and global levels,** with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, under the guidance of the United Nations Statistical Commission, by harmonizing methodologies for data collection, and strengthening analysis and dissemination of migration-related data and indicators
- (b) Improve international comparability and compatibility of migration statistics and national data systems,** including by further developing and applying the statistical definition of an international migrant, elaborating a set of standards to measure migrant stocks and flows, and documenting migration patterns and trends, characteristics of migrants, as well as drivers and impacts of migration
- (c) Develop a global programme to build and enhance national capacities in data collection, analysis and dissemination to share data, address data gaps and assess key migration trends,** that encourages collaboration between relevant stakeholders at all levels, provides dedicated training, financial support and technical assistance, leverages new data sources, including big data, and is reviewed by the United Nations Statistical Commission on a regular basis
- (d) Collect, analyse and use data on the effects and benefits of migration, as well as the contributions of migrants and diasporas to sustainable development,** with a view to inform the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and related strategies and programmes at the local, national, regional and global levels
- (e) Support further development of and collaboration between existing global and regional databases and depositories,** including the IOM Global Migration Data Portal and the World Bank Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, with a view to systematically consolidate relevant data in a transparent and user-friendly manner, while encouraging inter-agency collaboration to avoid duplication
- (f) Establish and strengthen regional centres for research and training on migration or migration observatories,** such as the African Observatory for Migration and Development, to collect and analyse data in line with United Nations standards, including on best practices, the contributions of migrants, the overall economic, social and political benefits and challenges of migration in countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as drivers of migration, with a view to establishing shared strategies and maximizing the value of disaggregated migration data, in coordination with existing regional and subregional mechanisms
- (g) Improve national data collection by integrating migration-related topics in national censuses, as early as practicable,** such as on country of birth, country of birth of parents, country of citizenship, country of residence five years prior to the census, most recent arrival date and reason for migrating, to ensure timely analysis and dissemination of results, disaggregated and tabulated in accordance with international standards, for statistical purposes
- (h) Conduct household, labour force and other surveys to collect information on the social and economic integration of migrants** or add standard migration modules to existing household surveys to improve national, regional and international comparability, and make collected data available through public-use of statistical microdata files
- (i) Enhance collaboration between State units responsible for migration data and national statistical offices to produce migration-related statistics,** including by using administrative records for statistical purposes, such as border records, visa, resident permits, population registers and other relevant sources, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data
- (j) Develop and use country-specific migration profiles,** which include disaggregated data on all migration-relevant aspects in a national context, including those on labour market needs, demand and availability of skills, the economic, environmental and social impacts of migration, remittance transfer costs, health, education, occupation, living and working conditions, wages, and the needs of migrants and receiving communities, in order to develop evidence-based migration policies
- (k) Cooperate with relevant stakeholders in countries of origin, transit and destination to develop research, studies and surveys on the interrelationship between migration and the three dimensions of sustainable development,** the contributions and skills of migrants and diasporas, as well as their ties to the countries of origin and destination.

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **In March 2019, the UN Statistics Division organized a high-level panel entitled "Towards a global programme for migration data."** Referring to GCM Objective 1 — this panel brought together representatives of countries, the donor community, statistical institutes, the UN system and civil society to discuss the development and implementation of a global programme on international migration statistics, as well as to share experiences and present initiatives to improve the collection and use of migration data and indicators in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the GCM.³

³ United Nations Statistical Commission (2019) "High-Level panel 'Towards a global programme for migration data'", *Meeting organized by United Nations Statistics Division Department of Economic and Social Affairs held on 4 March 2019*, <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/50th-session/side-events/20190304-1M-high-level-panel-migration/>

- In March 2020, UNICEF, IOM, UNHCR and OECD launched the **International Data Alliance for Children on the Move**, which brings together experts from national statistical offices, migration-relevant line ministries, international and regional organizations, NGOs, academics, and civil societies. The main objective of the Alliance is improving statistics and data on migrant and forcibly displaced children to support evidence-based policymaking that protects and empowers them.⁴
- **Free Movement and Migration (FFM) West Africa project: The FMM supports the development of standardized migration-relevant data and country-level migration profiles (either new ones or updates of existing ones) and regional migration profiles.** through technical assistance and capacity-building support to the ECOWAS Commission, which consists of fifteen ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania. FMM is funded by the EU and the ECOWAS Commission and jointly implemented by IOM, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and ILO.⁵
- **At the local level, within the framework of the Mediterranean City-to-City Migration project, Amman, Beirut, Casablanca, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Oujda, Rabat, Sfax, Sousse, Tangiers, Tunis, Turin and other cities in the Mediterranean (ICM) have elaborated and shared city migration profiles with the support of a local expert and the involvement of different stakeholders engaged on migration and inclusion at local level.** These profiles collected existing data on migrant populations, as well as mapped out related actors and activities that could support local policy-making and strengthen multi-stakeholder cooperation.⁶

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

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

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

⁴ See UNICEF <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/lack-quality-data-compounds-risks-facing-millions-refugee-and-migrant-children>

⁵ Schachter, J. (2019), 'Building Migration Data Capacity: Examples of Good Practices for the African Region', *Central Mediterranean Route Thematic Report Series*, Issue no. 3, IOM, Geneva, https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/capacity_building.pdf

⁶ The MC2CM city migration profiles are available [here](#).

GCM Objective 2

Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Promote the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, including the Sustainable Development Goals and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the commitment to reach the furthest behind first, as well as the Paris Agreement⁴ and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
- (b) **Invest in programmes that accelerate States' fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals with the aim of eliminating the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin**, including through poverty eradication, food security, health and sanitation, education, inclusive economic growth, infrastructure, urban and rural development, employment creation, decent work, gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, resilience and disaster risk reduction, climate change mitigation and adaptation, addressing the socioeconomic effects of all forms of violence, non-discrimination, rule of law and good governance, access to justice and protection of human rights, as well as creating and maintaining peaceful and inclusive societies with effective, accountable and transparent institutions
- (c) **Establish or strengthen mechanisms to monitor and anticipate the development of risks and threats that might trigger or affect migration movements**, strengthen early warning systems, develop emergency procedures and toolkits, launch emergency operations, and support post-emergency recovery, in close cooperation with and support of other States, relevant national and local authorities, National Human Rights Institutions, and civil society
- (d) **Invest in sustainable development at local and national levels in all regions allowing all people to improve their lives and meet their aspirations, by fostering sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth**, including through private and foreign direct investment and trade preferences, to create conducive conditions that allow communities and individuals to take advantage of opportunities in their own countries and drive sustainable development
- (e) **Invest in human capital development by promoting entrepreneurship, education, vocational training and skills development programmes and partnerships, productive employment creation, in line with labour market needs**, as well as in cooperation with the private sector and trade unions, with a view to reducing youth unemployment, avoiding brain drain and optimizing brain gain in countries of origin, and harnessing the demographic dividend
- (f) **Strengthen collaboration between humanitarian and development actors**, including by promoting joint analysis, multi-donor approaches and multi-year funding cycles, in order to develop long-term responses and outcomes that ensure respect for the rights of affected individuals, resilience and coping capacities of populations, as well as economic and social self-reliance, and by ensuring these efforts take migration into account
- (g) **Account for migrants in national emergency preparedness and response**, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations from State-led consultative processes, such as the Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster (MICIC Guidelines) Natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation
- (h) **Strengthen joint analysis and sharing of information to better map, understand, predict and address migration movements**, such as those that may result from sudden-onset and slow onset natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, environmental degradation, as well as other precarious situations, while ensuring the effective respect, protection and fulfilment of the human rights of all migrants
- (i) **Develop adaptation and resilience strategies to sudden-onset and slow-onset natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation**, such as desertification, land degradation, drought and sea level rise, taking into account the potential implications on migration, while recognizing that adaptation in the country of origin is a priority
- (j) **Integrate displacement considerations into disaster preparedness strategies and promote cooperation with neighbouring and other relevant countries** to prepare for early warning, contingency planning, stockpiling, coordination mechanisms, evacuation planning, reception and assistance arrangements, and public information
- (k) **Harmonize and develop approaches and mechanisms at subregional and regional levels to address the vulnerabilities of persons affected by sudden-onset and slow-onset natural disasters**, by ensuring they have access to humanitarian assistance that meets their essential needs with full respect for their rights wherever they are, and by promoting sustainable outcomes that increase resilience and self-reliance, taking into account the capacities of all countries involved
- (l) **Develop coherent approaches to address the challenges of migration movements in the context of sudden-onset and slow-onset natural disasters**, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations from State-led consultative processes, such as the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change, and the Platform on Disaster Displacement

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **In March 2016, the OECD established the Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth, which gathers mayors from across the world committed to addressing inequalities and taking action to generate more inclusive growth in their respective cities.** This initiative has helped municipal governments with analyzing growing inequalities, designing policies aimed at equity and growth, and monitoring the material living standards of their citizens. Furthermore, the initiative takes a multidimensional approach to examining inclusive growth, going beyond the metric of income to assess how people are faring, looking as well as criteria such as health and jobs.⁷
- **The Prospects Partnership** funded by The Netherlands and bringing together the World Bank Group - including the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) - UNICEF, UNHCR, and ILO aims to shift the paradigm from a humanitarian to a development approach in responding to forced displacement crises, fostering an enabling environment for socio-economic inclusion; improving access to education and protection for vulnerable children on the move; and strengthening the resilience of host communities.⁸
- **In 2015, the government of Bangladesh published its National strategy on the management of disaster and climate induced internal displacement (NSMDCIID).** The strategy was prepared with the aim of managing climate-induced internal displacement with an approach that is both comprehensive and rights-based. The national strategy formed a part of the Government's action plan to implement the Sendai Framework, and was in line with Bangladesh's Social Development Framework and other national and international policy frameworks. The strategy — which focuses on internal displacements (and not cross-border ones) induced by climate-related disasters — lays out a strategy that covers all three phases of displacements, including (a) pre-displacement; (b) the displacement phase; and (c) post-displacement.⁹

RELEVANT SDGs

All SDGs :

In order to eliminate the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin, these factors must be comprehensively understood and addressed. These factors span the entirety of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, including SDG 1 on poverty, SDG 2 on ending hunger and SDG 3 on ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all. In addition, SDG 13 on combating climate change and SDG 16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies are critical to ensuring people are not compelled to leave their country of origin. Thus, there is a need to integrate migration considerations and the rights and needs of migrants across all development areas. Doing so will help achieve SDG 17.14: Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development.

⁷OECD (n.d.), "About Champion Mayors", <http://www.oecd-inclusive.com/champion-mayors/about/>.

⁸ See: <https://www.government.nl/topics/development-cooperation/the-development-policy-of-the-netherlands/refugees-and-migration>

⁹ PreventionWeb (n.d.), "National strategy on the management of disaster and climate induced internal displacement (NSMDCIID)", <https://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/policies/v.php?id=46732>.

GCM Objective 3

Provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Launch and publicize a centralized and publicly accessible national website to make information available on regular migration options**, such as on country-specific immigration laws and policies, visa requirements, application formalities, fees and conversion criteria, employment permit requirements, professional qualification requirements, credential assessment and equivalences, training and study opportunities, and living costs and conditions, in order to inform the decisions of migrants
- (b) **Promote and improve systematic bilateral, regional and international cooperation and dialogue to exchange information on migration-related trends**, including through joint databases, online platforms, international training centres and liaison networks, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data
- (c) **Establish open and accessible information points along relevant migration routes that can refer migrants to child-sensitive and gender-responsive support and counselling**, offer opportunities to communicate with consular representatives of the country of origin, and make available relevant information, including on human rights and fundamental freedoms, appropriate protection and assistance, options and pathways for regular migration, and possibilities for return, in a language the person concerned understands.
- (d) **Provide newly arrived migrants with targeted, gender-responsive, child-sensitive, accessible and comprehensive information and legal guidance on their rights and obligations**, including on compliance with national and local laws, obtaining of work and resident permits, status adjustments, registration with authorities, access to justice to file complaints about rights violations, as well as on access to basic services
- (e) **Promote multi-lingual, gender-responsive and evidence-based information campaigns and organize awareness-raising events and pre-departure orientation trainings in countries of origin**, in cooperation with local authorities, consular and diplomatic missions, the private sector, academia, migrant and diaspora organizations and civil society, in order to promote safe, orderly and regular migration, as well as to highlight the risks associated with irregular and unsafe migration

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **The Canada Orientation Abroad (COA) Programme is an overseas orientation initiative that provides potential migrants to Canada with accurate, relevant, consistent and time-sensitive information designed to help them make well-informed settlement decisions.** COA is offered to those migrants who already have Canadian visas, as well as those seeking family reunification or job opportunities.¹⁰
- **The Comprehensive Information and Orientation Programme (CIOP) — which is currently being implemented in the context of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue (ADD) — helps manage and provide tailored pre-departure, pre-employment, and post-arrival orientation for temporary contractual workers working in Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.** Receiving technical support from IOM, ADD member States aim to adapt the CIOP to their respective country contexts. The CIOP will help strengthen the protection and integration of temporary contractual workers through various means — among them, enhancing the transparency of information, protecting workers from risks of abuse and exploitation, assisting prospective workers in making informed decisions, reducing barriers in workplaces and promoting the social integration of migrants.¹¹
- **In Namibia, a number of emerging practices around raising awareness on child labour-related issues have emerged.** For example, the support of the media — which can reach and influence both rural and urban populations — was engaged in raising awareness around child labour as part of the TECL (Towards the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour) II Project through stories, various programmes and interviews.¹²
- In 2016, as part of a joint endeavour to step up protection for the growing numbers of children and others with specific needs arriving in Europe, UNHCR and UNICEF set up special support centres for children and families along the most frequently used migration routes in Europe. **Twenty Child and Family Support Hubs, to be known as “Blue Dots,” provided a safe space for children and their families, vital services, play, protection and counselling in a single location.** The hubs support vulnerable families on the move, especially the many unaccompanied or separated children at risk of sickness, trauma, violence, exploitation and trafficking.¹³ This approach has been replicated in the situation response for Venezuelans.¹⁴ Similarly, in 2019 the government of Niger and UNICEF established four One Stop Social Welfare Shops in the region of Agadez and rehabilitated a temporary transit centre for unaccompanied child migrants.

¹⁰See IOM (2018) [Migration week Side Event, Concept Note, 9 December 2018, Marrakesh, Morocco: Innovative Solutions to Enhancing Pathways for Regular Migration](#)

¹¹ *ibid.*

¹² ILO (2012), “Good practices and lessons learned on the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in Namibia,” International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), ILO, Geneva.

¹³ See UNHCR, [UNHCR, UNICEF launch Blue Dot hubs to boost protection for children and families on the move across Europe](#). 1

¹⁴ See: <https://data2.unhcr.org/es/documents/details/72708>

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG1: No poverty

- **1.4:** By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance

SDG 4: Quality Education

- **4.b:** By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries

SDG 5: Gender Equality

- **5.b:** Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

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

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

- **16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

GCM Objective 4

Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Improve civil registry systems, with a particular focus on reaching unregistered persons and our nationals residing in other countries**, including by providing relevant identity and civil registry documents, strengthening capacities, and investing in information and communication technology solutions, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data
- (b) **Harmonize travel documents in line with the specifications of the International Civil Aviation Organization to facilitate interoperable and universal recognition of travel documents**, as well as to combat identity fraud and document forgery, including by investing in digitalization, and strengthening mechanisms for biometric data-sharing, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data
- (c) **Ensure adequate, timely, reliable and accessible consular documentation to our nationals residing in other countries**, including identity and travel documents, making use of information and communications technology, as well as community outreach, particularly in remote areas
- (d) **Facilitate access to personal documentation, such as passports and visas, and ensure that relevant regulations and criteria to obtain such documentation are non-discriminatory**, by undertaking a gender-responsive and age-sensitive review in order to prevent increased risk of vulnerabilities throughout the migration cycle
- (e) **Strengthen measures to reduce statelessness, including by registering migrants' births, ensuring that women and men can equally confer their nationality to their children**, and providing nationality to children born in another State's territory, especially in situations where a child would otherwise be stateless, fully respecting the human right to a nationality and in accordance with national legislation
- (f) **Review and revise requirements to prove nationality at service delivery centres** to ensure that migrants without proof of nationality or legal identity are not precluded from accessing basic services nor denied their human rights
- (g) **Build upon existing practices at the local level that facilitate participation in community life, such as interaction with authorities and access to relevant services**, through the issuance of registration cards to all persons living in a municipality, including migrants, that contain basic personal information, while not constituting entitlements to citizenship or residency

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **The Identification Document of New York City (IDNYC) is an identification document card that is freely available to all residents of New York City, including undocumented migrants.** The IDNYC allows for residents in New York City — including vulnerable groups such as undocumented migrants, the homeless and youth — to identify themselves to authorities and guarantees access to municipal services that can only be accessed by individuals with valid forms of identification. For example, using the IDNYC, residents can access New York City's public libraries, health centres and educational providers and open a bank account. Launched by New York Mayor Bill de Blasio in January 2015, the IDNYC initiative was preceded by a commissioned study that mapped, compared and analysed other similar municipal initiatives in the country, as well as by a consultation process with various advocacy groups (including migrant ones).¹⁵
- In 2010, Thailand lifted its reservation to Article 7 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. As part of the country's new Civil Registration Act, the government committed to registering the birth of all children within its jurisdiction. **Under the revised law, children born in Thailand are entitled to be registered at birth even when their parents are not Thai nationals.** Birth registration does not confer nationality on refugee children. But by establishing a legal record of their parents and place of birth, a birth certificate can be used to prove the right to acquire nationality if a child returns to the parent's country of origin. The law came into effect in 2010 and in the years since, Thai civil registration authorities have worked with partners to address the backlog of registration for children born in refugee camps.¹⁶
- **The *matrícula consular*, an ID card issued by the Mexican government to Mexican citizens abroad, helps Mexico locate its nationals in emergency situations and is available to all Mexican national living in the US, including those who are undocumented.** To obtain the *matrícula consular*, Mexican nationals must pay a fee, provide their biometric information, and present various items, including an official Mexican ID, a Mexican birth certificate, and proof of address within the relevant consular district. The *matrícula consular* also facilitates access to various services, including banking (many banks accept the ID), obtaining an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) to pay federal income taxes, and obtaining a driver's license. According to the Mexican Embassy,

¹⁵ IOM and JMDI (2015), [White Paper - mainstreaming migration into local development planning and beyond](#)

¹⁶ See UNHCR, ['Birth Registration'](#), [Child Protection Issue Brief](#), and UNICEF, [A Passport to Protection: A guide to birth registration programming](#)

"[a]s of August 2013, more than 371 counties, 356 financial institutions, and 1,036 police departments accepted *matrícula consular* cards as a valid proof of ID."¹⁷

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 1: No Poverty

- **1.3:** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

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

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

- **16.9:** By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration

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 context.

¹⁷ National Immigration Law Center (2015), [Basic Facts about the Matrícula Consular](#)

GCM Objective 5

Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Develop human rights-based and gender-responsive bilateral, regional and multilateral labour mobility agreements** with sector-specific standard terms of employment in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, drawing on relevant ILO standards, guidelines and principles, in compliance with international human rights and labour law
- (b) **Facilitate regional and cross-regional labour mobility through international and bilateral cooperation arrangements**, such as free movement regimes, visa liberalization or multiple country visas, and labour mobility cooperation frameworks, in accordance with national priorities, local market needs and skills supply
- (c) **Review and revise existing options and pathways for regular migration, with a view to optimize skills matching in labour markets, address demographic realities and development challenges and opportunities**, in accordance with local and national labour market demands and skills supply, in consultation with the private sector and other relevant stakeholders
- (d) **Develop flexible, rights-based and gender-responsive labour mobility schemes for migrants**, in accordance with local and national labour market needs and skills supply at all skills levels, including temporary, seasonal, circular, and fast-track programmes in areas of labour shortages, by providing flexible, convertible and non-discriminatory visa and permit options, such as for permanent and temporary work, multiple-entry study, business, visit, investment and entrepreneurship
- (e) **Promote effective skills matching in the national economy by involving local authorities and other relevant stakeholders, particularly the private sector and trade unions**, in the analysis of the local labour market, identification of skills gaps, definition of required skills profiles, and evaluation of the efficacy of labour migration policies, in order to ensure market-responsive contractual labour mobility through regular pathways
- (f) **Foster efficient and effective skills-matching programmes** by reducing visa and permit processing timeframes for standard employment authorizations, and by offering accelerated and facilitated visa and permit processing for employers with a track record of compliance
- (g) **Develop or build on existing national and regional practices for admission and stay of appropriate duration based on compassionate, humanitarian or other considerations for migrants compelled to leave their countries of origin**, due to sudden-onset natural disasters and other precarious situations, such as by providing humanitarian visas, private sponsorships, access to education for children, and temporary work permits, while adaptation in or return to their country of origin is not possible
- (h) **Cooperate to identify, develop and strengthen solutions for migrants compelled to leave their countries of origin due to slow-onset natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation**, such as desertification, land degradation, drought and sea level rise, including by devising planned relocation and visa options, in cases where adaptation in or return to their country of origin is not possible
- (i) **Facilitate access to procedures for family reunification for migrants at all skills levels through appropriate measures that promote the realization of the right to family life and the best interests of the child**, including by reviewing and revising applicable requirements, such as on income, language proficiency, length of stay, work authorization, and access to social security and services
- (j) **Expand available options for academic mobility**, including through bilateral and multilateral agreements that facilitate academic exchanges, such as scholarships for students and academic professionals, visiting professorships, joint training programmes, and international research opportunities, in cooperation with academic institutions and other relevant stakeholders

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **The bilateral Global Skill Partnership (GSP) is an instrument “designed to channel migration pressures into tangible, mutual benefits for both a country of migrant origin and a country of destination.... maximis[ing] the benefits of migration and shar[ing] them fairly.”** GSPs are meant to be exchanges between equal partners, whereby the country of destination commits to providing finance and technology to train potential migrants with specific skills in the country of origin, *prior* to the migration journey. Meanwhile, under the GSP model, countries of origin commit to carrying out training for potential departing migrants, but also receive support (from countries of destination) for training non-migrants as well.¹⁸
- **Some countries have signed bilateral labour agreements that are based on international human rights norms and foundations.** For example, the Colombia-Peru Framework Agreement of 2012 refers to the rights embedded in the international instruments ratified

¹⁸ Clemens, M. and K. Gough (2018), “A Tool to Implement the Global Compact for Migration: Ten Key Steps for Building Global Skill Partnerships”, *CDG Brief*, 4 December, Center for Global Development, Washington, DC, <https://www.cgdev.org/publication/tool-implement-global-compact-migration-ten-key-steps-building-global-skill-partnerships>

by both countries, which includes the International Convention on the Rights of Migrants Workers and the Members of their Families (ICRMW).

- **In Luxembourg, there is a legal mechanism for regularizing children and young people (before they turn 21) and their parents, if the child or young person has completed at least four years of compulsory schooling**, and certain other conditions are met. A permit for a salaried worker or a permit for studies or vocational training (for the duration of studies) is issued, depending on the circumstances.¹⁹
- In 2017, **Colombia created a Special Stay Permit enabling 180,000 Venezuelan migrants, who had entered through formal border points, to remain in the country**. The national authorities also registered more than 442,000 irregular migrants. Venezuelans who have registered or acquired the Special Stay Permit are entitled to remain in Colombia for up to two years with access to basic rights, including employment, health, and education²⁰
- **In reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic, in March 2020 Portugal announced plans to grant residence status to everyone with pending residence applications on any ground**, including but not limited to asylum, until 1 July 2020. Individuals granted permits on this basis were able to access health care and all other public services on equal terms as any other permanent resident in Portugal.²¹ Similarly, other countries, including Italy,²² France²³ and Poland²⁴ have automatically extended the validity of all residence permits expiring during the lock-down.

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 3: Good health and well-being

- **3.c:** Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States

SDG 4: Quality education

- **4.b:** By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries
- **4.c:** By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States

SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth

- **8.3:** Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services
- **8.7:** Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms
- **8.8:** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment
- **8.b:** By 2020, develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization

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

¹⁹ PICUM (2018), *Manual on regularisations for children, young people and families*, PICUM, Brussels.

²⁰ UNHCR, 2019, *Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela*

²¹ Ibid

²² See government website: <https://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/cura-italia-immigrazione-e-cittadinanza-sospesi-i-termini-dei-procedimenti-amministrativi>.

²³ See government website: https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en_US/web/france-visas/professional-internship

²⁴ See European website on integration: <https://ec.europa.eu/migrant-integration/news/poland-implements-special-measures-for-residence-permits-during-the-covid-19-pandemic>

GCM Objective 6

Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Promote signature, ratification, accession and implementation of relevant international instruments related to international labour migration, labour rights, decent work and forced labour**
- (b) **Build upon the work of existing bilateral, subregional and regional platforms that have overcome obstacles and identified best practices in labour mobility**, by facilitating cross-regional dialogue to share this knowledge, and to promote the full respect for the human and labour rights of migrant workers at all skills levels, including migrant domestic workers
- (c) **Improve regulations on public and private recruitment agencies, in order to align them with international guidelines and best practices**, prohibit recruiters and employers from charging or shifting recruitment fees or related costs to migrant workers in order to prevent debt bondage, exploitation and forced labour, including by establishing mandatory, enforceable mechanisms for effective regulation and monitoring of the recruitment industry
- (d) **Establish partnerships with all relevant stakeholders, including employers, migrant workers organizations and trade unions, to ensure that migrant workers are provided written contracts and are made aware of the provisions therein**, the regulations relating to international labour recruitment and employment in the country of destination, their rights and obligations, as well as on how to access effective complaint and redress mechanisms, in a language they understand
- (e) **Enact and implement national laws that sanction human and labour rights violations**, especially in cases of forced and child labour, and cooperate with the private sector, including employers, recruiters, subcontractors and suppliers, to build partnerships that promote conditions for decent work, prevent abuse and exploitation, and ensure that the roles and responsibilities within the recruitment and employment processes are clearly outlined, thereby enhancing supply chain transparency
- (f) **Strengthen the enforcement of fair and ethical recruitment and decent work norms and policies by enhancing the abilities of labour inspectors and other authorities to better monitor recruiters, employers and service providers in all sectors**, ensuring that international human rights and labour law is observed to prevent all forms of exploitation, slavery, servitude, and forced, compulsory or child labour
- (g) **Develop and strengthen labour migration and fair and ethical recruitment processes that allow migrants to change employers and modify the conditions** or length of their stay with minimal administrative burden, while promoting greater opportunities for decent work and respect for international human rights and labour law
- (h) **Take measures that prohibit the confiscation or non-consensual retention of work contracts, and travel or identity documents from migrants**, in order to prevent abuse, all forms of exploitation, forced, compulsory and child labour, extortion and other situations of dependency, and to allow migrants to fully exercise their human rights
- (i) **Provide migrant workers engaged in remunerated and contractual labour with the same labour rights and protections extended to all workers in the respective sector**, such as the rights to just and favourable conditions of work, to equal pay for work of equal value, to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including through wage protection mechanisms, social dialogue and membership in trade unions
- (j) **Ensure migrants working in the informal economy have safe access to effective reporting, complaint, and redress mechanisms in cases of exploitation, abuse or violations of their rights in the workplace**, in a manner that does not exacerbate vulnerabilities of migrants that denounce such incidents and allow them to participate in respective legal proceedings whether in the country of origin or destination
- (k) **Review relevant national labour laws, employment policies and programmes to ensure that they include considerations of the specific needs and contributions of women migrant workers, especially in domestic work and lower-skilled occupations**, and adopt specific measures to prevent, report, address and provide effective remedy for all forms of exploitation and abuse, including sexual and gender-based violence, as a basis to promote gender-responsive labour mobility policies
- (l) **Develop and improve national policies and programmes relating to international labour mobility**, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations of the ILO General Principles and Operational Guidelines for Fair Recruitment, the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and the IOM International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS)

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **Bilateral labour agreements between countries can also be effective at regulating recruitment practices.** For example, the MOU between the Philippines and Japan clearly indicates the recruitment fees that employers must pay: as of 2013, US \$425 as a processing fee, and a US \$25 contribution to the Worker's Welfare Fund.

- **The International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS) is a global initiative aimed at promoting ethical and recruitment. IRIS defines and sets a benchmark for ethical recruitment** – called the IRIS Standard – and establishes a voluntary certification scheme for ethical labour recruiters, as well as a compliance and monitoring mechanism. Through IRIS, IOM works with governments, the private sector and civil society to create ethical recruitment conditions that will eventually enable ethical recruitment to become the norm.²⁵
- **Indonesia's Jember Regency, which covers a large number of rural towns and urbanised territories in the East Java Region, has various programmes aimed at supporting former migrants' social inclusion and access to employment in ethical conditions.**²⁶ These initiatives include artisanship activities and digital literacy programmes, which contribute not only to migrants' empowerment but also to local economic development. The work led at the local level has also been combined with a national strategy oriented towards the protection of migrants' rights in international human rights law.²⁷

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 1: No poverty

- **1.3:** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

SDG 5: Gender Equality

- **5.2:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
- **5.4:** Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth

- **8.7:** Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms
- **8.8:** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment
- **8.b:** By 2020, develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization

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

²⁵ IOM (n.d.), "IRIS – International Recruitment Integrity System", <https://iris.iom.int/>.

²⁶ Mampu (2018), "Voice from the Village: The Success Story of DESBUMI in Jember, East Java," <https://www.mampu.or.id/en/event/voice-from-the-village-the-success-story-of-desbumi-in-jember-east-java/>.

²⁷ UCLG-CISDPDH (2019), "Jember Regency to host Indonesia's 6th Human Rights Festival," <https://www.uclg-cisdpd.org/en/news/latest-news/jember-regency-host-indonesia-s-6th-human-rights-festival-19-21-november-2019>.

GCM Objective 7

Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Review relevant policies and practices to ensure they do not create, exacerbate or unintentionally increase vulnerabilities of migrants**, including by applying a human rights-based, gender- and disability-responsive, as well as an age- and child-sensitive approach
- (b) **Establish comprehensive policies and develop partnerships that provide migrants in a situation of vulnerability, regardless of their migration status, with necessary support at all stages of migration**, through identification and assistance, as well as protection of their human rights, in particular in cases related to women at risk, children, especially those unaccompanied or separated from their families, members of ethnic and religious minorities, victims of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, older persons, persons with disabilities, persons who are discriminated against on any basis, indigenous peoples, workers facing exploitation and abuse, domestic workers, victims of trafficking in persons, and migrants subject to exploitation and abuse in the context of smuggling of migrants
- (c) **Develop gender-responsive migration policies to address the particular needs and vulnerabilities of migrant women, girls and boys**, which may include assistance, health care, psychological and other counselling services, as well as access to justice and effective remedies, especially in cases of sexual and gender-based violence, abuse and exploitation
- (d) **Review relevant existing labour laws and work conditions to identify and effectively address workplace-related vulnerabilities and abuses of migrant workers** at all skills levels, including domestic workers, and those working in the informal economy, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, particularly the private sector
- (e) **Account for migrant children in national child protection systems by establishing robust procedures for the protection of migrant children in relevant legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings and decisions, as well as in all migration policies and programmes that impact children**, including consular protection policies and services, as well as cross-border cooperation frameworks, in order to ensure the best interests of the child are appropriately integrated, consistently interpreted and applied in coordination and cooperation with child protection authorities
- (f) **Protect unaccompanied and separated children at all stages of migration through the establishment of specialized procedures for their identification, referral, care and family reunification, and provide access to health care services**, including mental health, education, legal assistance and the right to be heard in administrative and judicial proceedings, including by swiftly appointing a competent and impartial legal guardian, as essential means to address their particular vulnerabilities and discrimination, protect them from all forms of violence, and provide access to sustainable solutions that are in their best interests
- (g) **Ensure migrants have access to public or affordable independent legal assistance and representation in legal proceedings that affect them**, including during any related judicial or administrative hearing, in order to safeguard that all migrants, everywhere, are recognized as persons before the law and that the delivery of justice is impartial and non-discriminatory
- (h) **Develop accessible and expedient procedures that facilitate transitions from one status to another and inform migrants of their rights and obligations, so as to prevent migrants from falling into an irregular status in the country of destination**, to reduce precariousness of status and related vulnerabilities, as well as to enable individual status assessments for migrants, including for those who have fallen out of regular status, without fear of arbitrary expulsion
- (i) **Build on existing practices to facilitate access for migrants in an irregular status to an individual assessment that may lead to regular status, on a case by case basis and with clear and transparent criteria**, especially in cases where children, youth and families are involved, as an option to reduce vulnerabilities, as well as for States to ascertain better knowledge of the resident population
- (j) **Apply specific support measures to ensure that migrants caught up in situations of crisis in countries of transit and destination have access to consular protection and humanitarian assistance**, including by facilitating cross-border and broader international cooperation, as well as by taking migrant populations into account in crisis preparedness, emergency response and post-crisis action
- (k) **Involve local authorities and relevant stakeholders in the identification, referral and assistance of migrants in a situation of vulnerability**, including through agreements with national protection bodies, legal aid and service providers, as well as the engagement of mobile response teams, where they exist
- (l) **Develop national policies and programmes to improve national responses that address the needs of migrants in situations of vulnerability**, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations of the Global Migration Group Principles and Guidelines, Supported by Practical Guidance, on the Human Rights Protection of Migrants in Vulnerable Situations

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **UN entities have developed guidance on the human rights protection of migrants in vulnerable situations.**²⁸ Published by the Global Migration Group (GMG) Working Group on Human Rights and Gender, and led by OHCHR, the document provides guidance to States (and other stakeholders as relevant) on how to operationalize the international human rights law framework and related standards for the protection of migrants who are in vulnerable situations either because of the situations they left behind, the circumstances in which they travel or the conditions they face on arrival, or because of personal characteristics such as their age, gender identity, disability or health status.
- **Morocco initiated two regularization campaigns beginning in 2014 with the aim of providing secure legal status to undocumented migrants on their territory.** This includes women, men and children regardless of the initial reasons for entry who had lived in Morocco for at least 5 years.
- In 2016 UNICEF and the German Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth launched a national, multi-partner initiative to strengthen existing child protection systems. One major achievement of the initiative was the **Minimum Standards for the Protection of Refugees and Migrants Living in Refugee Centres**, developed in a participatory process that involved over 30 partners. UNICEF **produced training materials and tools to ensure the effective implementation and monitoring of the standards by service providers.** Over 2,500 refugee centre managers, protection coordinators and staff were trained in the 100 refugee centres across Germany.²⁹
- **Italian Law 47/2017 established a revised legal framework for the protection and care of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC)** and included a model of volunteer guardians -- citizens selected and trained by the Regional Ombudspersons for Children.³⁰
- In 2019, **the national Children on the Move Taskforce in Egypt developed National SOPs on the Protection and Assistance of Child Asylum-Seekers, Refugees, Smuggled Migrants and Victims of Trafficking in Persons and a Child Helpline for children on the move.**

RELEVANT SDGs AND INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

SDG 1: No poverty

- **1.3:** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable
- **1.4:** By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance

SDG 5: Gender Equality

- **5.2:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
- **5.4:** Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth

- **8.7:** Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms
- **8.8:** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment

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

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

²⁸ See OHCHR [Principles and Guidelines migrants in vulnerable situations](#)

²⁹ See: BMFSFJ and UNICEF, [Minimum Standards for the Protection of Refugees and Migrants in Refugee Accommodation Centers](#),

³⁰ See UNICEF Programme Brief; <https://www.unicef.org/eca/media/9386/file>

- **16.2:** End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children
- **16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- **16.7:** Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels
- **16.9:** By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration

SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

- **17.14:** Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development” which can be achieved by reviewing relevant policies and practices to ensure they do not create, exacerbate or unintentionally increase vulnerabilities of migrants as outlined above

GCM Objective 8

Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Develop procedures and agreements on search and rescue of migrants, with the primary objective to protect migrants' right to life** that uphold the prohibition of collective expulsion, guarantee due process and individual assessments, enhance reception and assistance capacities, and ensure that the provision of assistance of an exclusively humanitarian nature for migrants is not considered unlawful
- (b) **Review the impacts of migration-related policies and laws to ensure that these do not raise or create the risk of migrants going missing**, including by identifying dangerous transit routes used by migrants, by working with other States as well as relevant stakeholders and international organizations to identify contextual risks and establishing mechanisms for preventing and responding to such situations, with particular attention to migrant children, especially those unaccompanied or separated
- (c) **Enable migrants to communicate with their families without delay to inform them that they are alive** by facilitating access to means of communication along routes and at their destination, including in places of detention, as well as access to consular missions, local authorities and organizations that can provide assistance with family contacts, especially in cases of unaccompanied or separated migrant children, as well as adolescents
- (d) **Establish transnational coordination channels, including through consular cooperation, and designate contact points for families looking for missing migrants**, through which families can be kept informed on the status of the search and obtain other relevant information, while respecting the right to privacy and protecting personal data
- (e) **Collect, centralize and systematize data regarding corpses and ensure traceability after burial**, in accordance with internationally accepted forensic standards, and establish coordination channels at transnational level to facilitate identification and the provision of information to families
- (f) **Make all efforts, including through international cooperation, to recover, identify and repatriate the remains of deceased migrants to their countries of origin**, respecting the wishes of grieving families, and, in the case of unidentified individuals, facilitate the identification and subsequent recovery of the mortal remains, ensuring that the remains of deceased migrants are treated in a dignified, respectful and proper manner

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- In 2009, the EAAF, working with committees of families of missing migrants, NGOs and governmental institutions from the countries that sit along the migrant corridor connecting Central America, Mexico and the USA, launched **the Proyecto Frontera (Border Project) in an effort to identify migrants who have gone missing in Central America, Mexico or at the border between Mexico and the USA**. The main objective of this project is to help set up a regional mechanism to improve the exchange of information on missing migrants and unidentified remains along this corridor. Data on missing migrants are collected, verified and catalogued so that they can be cross-referenced with forensic data on unidentified remains recovered by forensic institutions in both transit and destination countries. This led to the creation of forensic databases in Central America and Mexico, with the participation of the respective ministries of foreign affairs, civil society organizations, forensic institutions and committees of families of missing migrants³¹.
- **In 2007, the government of Italy established an office dedicated to dealing with missing persons within its Ministry of Interior**. The main tasks of the Special Commissioner for Missing Persons includes coordinating between different state actors, supervising the activities of other actors and institutions, managing and updating the national register of unidentified bodies, facilitating the cross-checking of information on unidentified bodies and missing persons, and liaising with international institutions, NGO representatives, and the families of the disappeared. The Office of the Special Commissioner has handled various significant shipwrecks. In the context of these tragedies, the Commissioner's office lay out guidelines on how to manage situations of migration-related shipwrecks.³²
- **The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has established an approach to tracing the families of missing migrants through using an algorithmic method and contextual ante-mortem data**. The organization combines this method of using ante-mortem data with traditional tracing methods, and its approach is being piloted in Mauritania and Senegal.³³

³¹ Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team, IOM, IFRC and Missing Persons Global Response (2019), Clarifying the fate and whereabouts of missing migrants: exchanging information along migratory routes, <https://shop.icrc.org/clarifying-the-fate-and-whereabouts-of-missing-migrants-exchanging-information-along-migratory-routes-pdf-en>

³² Mediterranean Missing Project (2016), "Missing Migrants: Management of Dead Bodies in Sicily", *Italy Country Report*, September 2016, <http://www.mediterraneanmissing.eu/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Mediterranean-Missing-Italy-report-long.pdf>

³³ Simon, R. (2019), "Analysis of Best Practices on the Identification of Missing Migrants: Implications for the Central Mediterranean", *Central Mediterranean Route Thematic Report Series*, IOM, Geneva, https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/identification_of_missing_migrants.pdf

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

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

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

- **16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere
- **16.2:** End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children
- **16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- **16.7:** Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

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 context

GCM Objective 9

Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Promote ratification, accession and implementation of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC)**
- (b) **Use transnational, regional and bilateral mechanisms to share relevant information and intelligence on smuggling routes, modus operandi and financial transactions of smuggling networks, vulnerabilities faced by smuggled migrants, and other data to dismantle the smuggling networks and enhance joint responses**
- (c) **Develop gender-responsive and child-sensitive cooperation protocols along migration routes that outline step-by-step measures to adequately identify and assist smuggled migrants**, in accordance with international law, as well as to facilitate cross-border law enforcement and intelligence cooperation in order to prevent and counter smuggling of migrants with the aim to end impunity for smugglers and prevent irregular migration, while ensuring that counter-smuggling measures are in full respect for human rights
- (d) **Adopt legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish the smuggling of migrants as a criminal offence**, when committed intentionally and in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit for the smuggler, and include enhanced penalties for smuggling of migrants under aggravating circumstances, in accordance with international law
- (e) **Design, review or amend relevant policies and procedures to distinguish between the crimes of smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons** by using the correct definitions and applying distinct responses to these separate crimes, while recognizing that smuggled migrants might also become victims of trafficking in persons, therefore requiring appropriate protection and assistance
- (f) **Take measures to prevent the smuggling of migrants along the migration cycle in partnership with other States and relevant stakeholders**, including by cooperating in the fields of development, public information, justice, as well as training and technical capacity building at national and local levels, paying special attention to geographic areas from where irregular migration systematically originates

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **The Regional Conference on Migration (GCM) put forth a Counter-Smuggling Work Plan (2019-2025), which aims to be a key instrument for enhancing States' regional cooperation around preventing and combating migrant smuggling.** The non-binding Work Plan lays out specific actions that States can take in four areas of cooperation: (1) investigation; (2) cooperation on judicial responses; (3) administrative detention and alternatives; and (4) migration solutions, prevention and assistance for migrant victims of related crimes. The Work Plan was designed for government actors, international organizations and civil society organizations working to combat the smuggling of persons and to protect smuggled migrants in vulnerable situations.³⁴
- **The Global Action against Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants - Asia and the Middle East (GLO.ACT Asia and the Middle East) is a four-year (2018-2022), €12 million joint initiative by the European Union (EU) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) being implemented in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in four countries: Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Iraq and Islamic Republic of Pakistan.** GLO.ACT assists governmental authorities and civil society organizations in targeted, innovative and demand-driven interventions: sustaining effective strategy and policy development, legislative review and harmonization, capability development, and regional and trans-regional cooperation. The project also provides direct assistance to victims of human trafficking and migrants in vulnerable situations through the strengthening of identification, referral, and protection mechanisms.³⁵
- **In September 2018, the UNODC offices in Brazil and Colombia – in cooperation with the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries (AIAMP) – held the fourth meeting of the Ibero-American network of specialized prosecutors on trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants (REDTRAM), which resulted in various concrete outcomes aimed at increasing regional cooperation.** For example, the network decided to set up joint investigation teams to handle specific cases of trafficking and smuggling in the region. Furthermore, it decided to establish a technical secretariat for REDTRAM within Argentina's Public Ministry, as a way to promote improved communication and to process members' requests for cooperation.³⁶

³⁴ Regional Conference on Migration (n.d.), *Counter-Smuggling Work Plan 2019-2025*, Regional Conference on Migration, San Jose, http://www.rcmvs.org/sites/default/files/publicaciones/workplansmuggling_crm_en_web.pdf.

³⁵ See UNODC, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/glo-act2/overview.html>

³⁶ UNODC (2018), "Ibero-American network of public prosecutors agrees to develop joint investigation teams", 4 October, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/glo-act/ibero-american-network-of-public-prosecutors-agrees-to-develop-joint-investigation-teams.html>.

- **In 2019, the Council of Europe published a study on the impact of the use of criminal law in restricting the work of NGOs supporting refugees and other migrants in Council of Europe Member States.**³⁷ The study underlines the risk of abuse of anti-smuggling legislation to restrict the work of NGOs providing assistance to refugees and migrants. To prevent this risk, the study suggests that Member States introduce a financial benefit clause, drawing from the definition of "gain" in the UN Smuggling Protocol, as well as a humanitarian exception clause, to ensure that NGOs activities are not included by criminal laws on migrant smuggling. Beyond this, similar clauses have already been adopted in a number of countries, which explicitly exclude individuals acting for humanitarian purposes from the scope of their anti-smuggling legislation. Other countries, such as Austria, have introduced a specific exemption to the crime of facilitation of irregular entry, transit and stay for spouses, registered partners, children and parents.³⁸

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

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

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

- **16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere
- **16.2:** End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children
- **16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- **16.4:** By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime

SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

- **17.16:** Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism
- **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

³⁷ Council of Europe (2019) "Using Criminal Law to Restrict the Work of NGOs Supporting Refugees and Other Migrants in Council of Europe Member States", <https://rm.coe.int/expert-council-conf-exp-2019-1-criminal-law-ngo-restrictions-migration/1680996969>.

³⁸ European Commission (2017), "Refit Evaluation of the EU Facilitators Package," [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/docs_autres_institutions/commission_europeenne/swd/2017/0117/COM_SWD\(2017\)0117_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/docs_autres_institutions/commission_europeenne/swd/2017/0117/COM_SWD(2017)0117_EN.pdf).

GCM Objective 10

Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Promote, ratification, accession and implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children**, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC)
- (b) **Promote the implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons** and take into consideration relevant recommendations of the UNODC Toolkit to Combat Trafficking in Persons and other relevant UNODC documents when developing and implementing national and regional policies and measures relating to trafficking in persons
- (c) **Monitor irregular migration routes which may be exploited by human trafficking networks to recruit and victimize smuggled or irregular migrants**, in order to strengthen cooperation at bilateral, regional and cross-regional levels on prevention, investigation, and prosecution of perpetrators, as well as on identification of, and protection and assistance to victims of trafficking in persons
- (d) **Share relevant information and intelligence through transnational and regional mechanisms**, including on the modus operandi, economic models and conditions driving trafficking networks, strengthen cooperation between all relevant actors, including financial intelligence units, regulators and financial institutions, to identify and disrupt financial flows associated with trafficking in persons, and enhance judicial cooperation and enforcement with the aim to ensure accountability and end impunity
- (e) **Apply measures that address the particular vulnerabilities of women, men, girls and boys, regardless of their migration status, that have become or are at risk of becoming victims of trafficking in persons and other forms of exploitation** by facilitating access to justice and safe reporting without fear of detention, deportation or penalty, focusing on prevention, identification, appropriate protection and assistance, and addressing specific forms of abuse and exploitation
- (f) **Ensure that definitions of trafficking in persons used in legislation, migration policy and planning**, as well as in judicial prosecutions are in accordance with international law, in order to distinguish between the crimes of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants
- (g) **Strengthen legislation and relevant procedures to enhance prosecution of traffickers, avoid criminalization of migrants who are victims of trafficking in persons for trafficking-related offences**, and ensure that the victim receives appropriate protection and assistance, not conditional upon cooperation with the authorities against suspected traffickers
- (h) **Provide migrants that have become victims of trafficking in persons with protection and assistance**, such as measures for physical, psychological and social recovery, as well as measures that permit them to remain in the country of destination, temporarily or permanently, in appropriate cases, facilitating victims' access to justice, including redress and compensation, in accordance with international law
- (i) **Create national and local information systems and training programmes which alert and educate citizens, employers, as well as public officials and law enforcement officers, and strengthen capacities to identify signs of trafficking in persons**, such as forced, compulsory or child labour, in countries of origin, transit and destination
- (j) **Invest in awareness-raising campaigns, in partnership with relevant stakeholders, for migrants and prospective migrants on the risks and dangers of trafficking in persons**, and provide them with information on preventing and reporting trafficking activities

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **In late 2019, the governor of the State of California (USA), signed a ground-breaking bill into law that aimed to equip survivors of human trafficking with the necessary resources to rebuild their lives.** The law AB 629 allows trafficking survivors to receive compensation for income loss and commercial exploitation from California's Crime Victim Compensation Fund (VCP). This fund provides reimbursements for crime-related expenses to victims who have suffered physical injury (or the threat thereof) due to violent crime. Previous regulations did not allow trafficking victims to receive compensation from the fund.³⁹
- **The "Persons at risk of trafficking in Europe – capacity to identify and assist potential victims of human trafficking" (PROTECT) project was a two-year cross-border initiative.** Bringing together the Croatian Red Cross, the British Red Cross, the International Centre for Policy Migration (ICMPD) and the Republic of Croatia Government Office of Human Rights and National Minorities as project partners, the project – which ended in 2016 and was co-funded by the Prevention of and Fight against Crime Programme of the European Union (ISEC) – had the following areas:
 - Equip caseworkers and practitioners on the front lines with the skills needed to recognize signs of trafficking and to provide adequate and tailored support

³⁹ Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (2019), "New law gives human trafficking survivors access to income loss for commercial exploitation", 16 November, <https://www.castla.org/new-law-gives-human-trafficking-survivors-access-to-income-loss-for-commercial-exploitation/>.

- Improve the systematic collection and compiling of data on trends and information regarding groups vulnerable to human trafficking
 - Allow for the exchange of best practices and information between EU Member States on the prevention of trafficking and assistance to victims⁴⁰
- **The labour inspectorate in Brazil has been held up as an example in tackling labour exploitation.**⁴¹ Guidelines for inter-institutional use, prepared by the National Commission for the Eradication of Slave Labour (CONATRAE), indicate practices to be implemented by all authorities.⁴² The guidelines outline, for example: the application of all the relevant labour and social security legislation for both regular and irregular migrant workers; that confidentiality regarding the identity of complainants should be fully guaranteed; that steps should be taken to regularize the situation and ensure severance pay and unemployment allowance for all affected workers; that the relevant authorities should cooperate to ensure that workers are provided with a permit when possible, including permanent residence status for victims of human trafficking regardless of the outcome of criminal proceeding, permits for nationals of MERCOSUR countries, Bolivia, Chile, Peru and Ecuador who have not committed a crime, and permits on grounds of family reunion, work, temporary amnesty for undocumented migrants, or humanitarian reasons, as per the corresponding regulations.⁴³

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 5: Gender Equality

- **5.2:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth

- **8.7:** Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms
- **8.8:** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

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

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

- **16.2:** End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children
- **16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

⁴⁰ Red Cross EU Office (2020), "Enhancing capacities to respond to human trafficking", <https://redcross.eu/projects/enhancing-capacities-to-respond-to-human-trafficking-1>

⁴¹ Note that the labour inspection is currently under attack by the current government, through measures such as the abolition of the Ministry of Labour in early 2019.

⁴² See <http://pfdc.pgr.mpf.mp.br/atuacao-e-conteudos-de-apoio/publicacoes/trabalho-escravo/manual-de-recomendacoes-de-rotinas-de-prevencao-e-combate-ao-trabalho-escravo-de-imigrantes-sdh-2013/view>.

⁴³ PICUM (2020), "A Worker is a Worker: How to ensure that undocumented migrant workers can access justice," PICUM, Brussels.

GCM Objective 11

Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Enhance international, regional and cross-regional border management cooperation, taking into consideration the particular situation of countries of transit**, on proper identification, timely and efficient referral, assistance and appropriate protection of migrants in situations of vulnerability at or near international borders, in compliance with international human rights law, by adopting whole-of-government approaches, implementing joint cross-border trainings, and fostering capacity-building measures
- (b) **Establish appropriate structures and mechanisms for effective integrated border management by ensuring comprehensive and efficient border crossing procedures**, including through pre-screening of arriving persons, pre-reporting by carriers of passengers, and use of information and communication technology, while upholding the principle of non-discrimination, respecting the right to privacy and protecting personal data
- (c) **Review and revise relevant national procedures for border screening, individual assessment and interview processes to ensure due process at international borders and that all migrants are treated in accordance with international human rights law**, including through cooperation with National Human Rights Institutions and other relevant stakeholders
- (d) **Develop technical cooperation agreements that enable States to request and offer assets, equipment and other technical assistance to strengthen border management**, particularly in the area of search and rescue as well as other emergency situations
- (e) **Ensure that child protection authorities are promptly informed and assigned to participate in procedures for the determination of the best interests of the child once an unaccompanied or separated child crosses an international border**, in accordance with international law, including by training border officials in the rights of the child and child-sensitive procedures, such as those that prevent family separation and reunite families when family separation occurs
- (f) **Review and revise relevant laws and regulations to determine whether sanctions are appropriate to address irregular entry or stay and, if so**, to ensure that they are proportionate, equitable, non-discriminatory, and fully consistent with due process and other obligations under international law
- (g) **Improve cross-border collaboration among neighbouring and other States relating to the treatment given to persons crossing or seeking to cross international borders**, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations from the OHCHR Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders when identifying best practices

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **The West African Network for the Protection of Children (WAN) of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) allows for the coordination between national child protection systems in ECOWAS states.** WAN's specific interventions include identifying children in vulnerable situations, carrying out family tracing, and conducting a social evaluation. If return must be facilitated by WAN, it is done using an agreed-upon case management tool. In 2011, WAN was strengthened following the launch of the ECOWAS Support Procedures and Standards for the Protection and Reintegration of Vulnerable Children on the Move and Young Migrants. These procedures and standards lay out eight key areas of protection for uprooted children. Some of the areas outlined were identification, alternative care, emergency support and family assessment.⁴⁴
- **Azerbaijan and Bosnia and Herzegovina have undertaken various initiatives for training public officials on migration and trafficking in persons**, including on the application of the provisions of the international human rights framework⁴⁵.
- **In June 2007, the African Union Border Programme (AUBP), promoting regional cross-border cooperation on border management, was adopted by the 1st Conference on African Ministers in Charge of Border Issues.** The objectives of AUBP are to finalize the demarcation and delimitation of African borders, to facilitate and encourage cross-border cooperation through joint planning and developing shared cross-border areas, and to increase Member States' border management capacity. Following the 1st Conference, subsequent conferences led to the adoption of additional border management-related mechanisms. For example, the 3rd Ministerial Conference, held in May 2012, resulted in the African Union Convention on Cross-Border Cooperation, which was adopted in June 2014 at the 23rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union.⁴⁶

⁴⁴ UNICEF (2017), Beyond Borders: How to make the global compacts on migration and refugees work for uprooted children, UNICEF, New York, https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/UNICEF_Beyond_Borders_Nov_2017.pdf.

⁴⁵ See: <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N13/422/65/PDF/N1342265.pdf?OpenElement>

⁴⁶ African Union Commission (n.d.), "Good Practices Platform on Cross-Border Cooperation in Africa", <https://au.int/ar/node/37336>.

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure

- **9.1:** Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all
- **9.a:** Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

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

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

- **16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

- **17.16:** Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries
- **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

GCM Objective 12

Strengthen certainty and predictability in migration procedures for appropriate screening, assessment and referral

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Increase transparency and accessibility of migration procedures by communicating the requirements for entry, admission, stay, work, study or other activities, and introducing technology to simplify application procedures**, in order to avoid unnecessary delays and expenses for States and migrants
- (b) **Develop and conduct intra- and cross-regional specialized human rights and trauma informed trainings for first responders and government officials, including law enforcement authorities, border officials, consular representatives and judicial bodies**, to facilitate and standardize identification and referral of, as well as appropriate assistance and counselling in a culturally-sensitive way, to victims of trafficking in persons, migrants in situations of vulnerability, including children, in particular those unaccompanied or separated, and persons affected by any form of exploitation and abuse related to smuggling of migrants under aggravating circumstances
- (c) **Establish gender-responsive and child-sensitive referral mechanisms**, including improved screening measures and individual assessments at borders and places of first arrival, by applying standardized operating procedures developed in coordination with local authorities, National Human Rights Institutions, international organizations and civil society
- (d) **Ensure that migrant children are promptly identified at places of first arrival in countries of transit and destination, and, if unaccompanied or separated, are swiftly referred to child protection authorities and other relevant services** as well as appointed a competent and impartial legal guardian, that family unity is protected, and that anyone legitimately claiming to be a child is treated as such unless otherwise determined through a multi-disciplinary, independent and child-sensitive age assessment
- (e) **Ensure that, in the context of mixed movements, relevant information on rights and obligations** under national laws and procedures, including on entry and stay requirements, available forms of protection, as well as options for return and reintegration, **is appropriately, timely and effectively communicated**, and accessible

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **The US government's Training and Technical Assistance Center, within its Office for Victims of Crime (OVCTTAC), practices trauma-informed victim interviewing when engaging with victims of human trafficking.** OVCTTAC provides guidance on how to conduct trauma-informed interviewing, in particular providing information on what to expect when interviewing trafficking victims. For example, the guidelines say that interviewers should not be surprised if a victim "[d]enies they are a victim... [h]as fears around safety and privacy...[h]as unmet medical needs, including nutrition or lack of sleep." Furthermore, the guidelines highlight the effects of trauma on the behaviour of trafficking victims — e.g., lack of focus, memory loss and emotional reactivity — and emphasize that "[a]ny approach to the victim should be a gradual and nonthreatening process."⁴⁷
- **In line with Article 3.1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC),⁴⁸ some States have taken into account the best interests of the child in their investigation and interviewing processes.** In particular, these States have recognized the significant psychological distress of unaccompanied children during interviews and investigations.
 - In the Netherlands, Norway and the UK, screening interviews are scheduled with unaccompanied children, which gives the children a recovery period before they have to go through the rest of the immigration or asylum system.
 - In Norway, when unaccompanied or separated children are initially registered by immigration police, both a guardian and a case manager who have been identified are present throughout the registration process.
 - The UK Home Office has a statutory guidance entitled "Every Child Matters", according to which arrangements are made to promote and safeguard the welfare of children. A Home Office pro-forma facilitates the exchange of information between the Home Office and the local authority charged with caring for the child, which helps assess and determine the child's best interests.⁴⁹
- **When interviewing trafficked women, States can refer to the "WHO ethical and safety recommendations for interviewing trafficked women," a trauma-informed resource that outlines 10 central guiding principles.** Some of these principles include "Do no harm" (Principle 1); "Prepare referral information: Don't offer advice or make promises that you cannot fulfill" (Principle 3); "Ensure

⁴⁷ OVCTTAC (Office for Victims of Crime - Training and Technical Assistance Center) (n.d.), "Trauma-Informed Victim Interviewing", <https://www.ovcttac.gov/taskforceguide/eguide/5-building-strong-cases/53-victim-interview-preparation/trauma-informed-victim-interviewing/>.

⁴⁸ Article 3.1 of the CRC states that "[i]n all actions concerning children... the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration."

⁴⁹ UNICEF (2014), *Safe & Sound: What States can do to ensure respect for the best interests of unaccompanied and separated children in Europe*, UNICEF, New York, <https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/5423da264.pdf>.

anonymity and confidentiality” (Principle 5); “Listen to and respect each woman’s assessment of her situation and risks to her safety” (Principle 7); and “Do not re-traumatize a woman” (Principle 8).

- **In Swedish cities, from the moment unaccompanied and separated children are identified, on-call emergency child protection services can be called to conduct an immediate assessment and emergency placement of the children.** To evaluate the need for alternative emergency placement, Sweden’s child protection services also assess the relationship between separated children and any adults who may be accompanying them.⁵⁰
- In 2014, the **Government of Zambia launched Guidelines for Protection Assistance to Vulnerable Migrants, which established identification, referral and service procedures for first-line officials including police officers and immigration authorities.** The goal was to equip these officials so they can deal sensitively with vulnerable refugees, including trafficking victims, unaccompanied and separated children and stateless migrants. The guidelines also include a National Referral Mechanism, a procedure for assisting vulnerable migrants, including children. It also establishes protocols that govern how frontline officials assess migrants’ and refugees’ status and vulnerability and connect them with services through the Zambian Department of Welfare.⁵¹
- In 2019, UNICEF collaborated with **the National Academy of Public Administration (APA) in Kazakhstan to develop a training programme for civil servants, immigration officers and social workers** on (1) international standards and best interests assessment; (2) immigration procedures, alternatives to detention, family tracing and reunification; and (3) case management for the protection of children in migration processes, including access to education and health.

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 5: Gender Equality

- **5.1:** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

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

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

- **16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- **16.6:** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
- **16.9:** By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration
- **16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

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

⁵⁰ UNICEF (2017), [Beyond Borders: How to make the global compacts on migration and refugees work for uprooted children](#), UNICEF, New York,

⁵¹ Government of the Republic of Zambia, [Guidelines: Protection Assistance for Vulnerable Migrants in Zambia](#)

GCM Objective 13

Use migration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- a) **Use existing relevant human rights mechanisms to improve independent monitoring of migrant detention**, ensuring that it is a measure of last resort, that human rights violations do not occur, and that States promote, implement and expand alternatives to detention, favouring non-custodial measures and community-based care arrangements, especially in the case of families and children
- b) **Consolidate a comprehensive repository to disseminate best practices of human rights based alternatives to detention in the context of international migration**, including by facilitating regular exchanges and the development of initiatives based on successful practices among States, and between States and relevant stakeholders
- c) **Review and revise relevant legislation, policies and practices related to immigration detention** to ensure that migrants are not detained arbitrarily, that decisions to detain are based on law, are proportionate, have a legitimate purpose, and are taken on an individual basis, in full compliance with due process and procedural safeguards, and that immigration detention is not promoted as a deterrent or used as a form of cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment to migrants, in accordance with international human rights law
- d) **Provide access to justice for all migrants in countries of transit and destination that are or may be subject to detention**, including by facilitating access to free or affordable legal advice and assistance of a qualified and independent lawyer, as well as access to information and the right to regular review of a detention order
- e) **Ensure that all migrants in detention are informed about the reasons for their detention**, in a language they understand, and facilitate the exercise of their rights, including to communicate with the respective consular or diplomatic missions without delay, legal representatives and family members, in accordance with international law and due process guarantees
- f) **Reduce the negative and potentially lasting effects of detention on migrants** by guaranteeing due process and proportionality, that it is for the shortest period of time, safeguards physical and mental integrity, and that, as a minimum, access to food, basic healthcare, legal orientation and assistance, information and communication, as well as adequate accommodation is granted, in accordance with international human rights law
- g) **Ensure that all governmental authorities and private actors duly charged with administering immigration detention do so in a way consistent with human rights** and are trained on non-discrimination, the prevention of arbitrary arrest and detention in the context of international migration, and are held accountable for violations or abuses of human rights
- h) **Protect and respect the rights and best interests of the child at all times**, regardless of their migration status, by ensuring availability and accessibility of a viable range of alternatives to detention in non-custodial contexts, favouring community-based care arrangements, that ensure access to education and healthcare, and respect their right to family life and family unity, and by working to end the practice of child detention in the context of international migration

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **In Hong Kong, screening and assessment of migrants' situations ensure detention is used as a last resort only.** During this assessment process, they take into account numerous factors, including whether the person concerned constitutes a security risk or threat to the community, whether they may abscond or re-offend, whether their identity has been resolved, and whether they have a fixed domicile (or a close connection) in Hong Kong. After being detained for a short time, most vulnerable individuals, among them torture claimants and asylum seekers, are released and issued with recognizance papers indicating their status. To help support these individuals, a project funded by the government and operated by an NGO provides clothing, medicine and food, and arranges for the vulnerable individuals to be housed in the community.⁵²
- IDC has partnered with UNICEF to convene a global multi-stakeholder initiative aimed at supporting States in addressing the practical challenges they face when putting in place alternatives to child immigration detention. **The Cross-Regional Peer Learning Platform on Alternatives to Child Immigration Detention** provides an umbrella for government experts to come together and engage in peer exchange, with technical support from a wide range of stakeholders. Since 2018, regional peer learning events co-hosted by Member States, IDC and UNICEF have taken place in Ecuador, Namibia, Tunisia and Thailand.⁵³
- **The government of Thailand set out an inter-ministerial framework to apply alternatives for children in immigration detention**, in partnership with civil society and UNICEF, establishing a practical link between migration and child protection law.⁵⁴

⁵² International Detention Coalition (2015), *There are alternatives: A handbook for preventing unnecessary immigration detention (revised edition)*, International Detention Coalition, Melbourne, <https://idcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/There-Are-Alternatives-2015.pdf>

⁵³ See UN Network on Migration, *Thematic Working Group 2: Alternatives to Detention*

⁵⁴ See government website: <http://www.nsc.go.th/?p=2300>

- **Since the outbreak of COVID-19, hundreds of individuals have been released from immigration detention.** In Spain, almost all immigration detainees have been released and provided accommodation in state-funded reception programmes run by NGOs.⁵⁵ Hundreds of individuals have also been released in the UK,⁵⁶ Belgium,⁵⁷ Netherlands⁵⁸ and Italy.⁵⁹ Most of the releases have been ordered by judges based on a case-by-case analysis of individuals' circumstances, both because of the difficulties in implementing social distancing measures in detention centres and because European Union law prohibits the detention of individuals if there is no reasonable prospect of return.⁶⁰

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure

- **9.1:** Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

- **16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- **16.6:** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
- **16.9:** By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration
- **16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

⁵⁵ See <https://picum.org/a-step-forward-towards-ending-immigration-detention-in-spain/>.

⁵⁶ See <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/mar/21/home-office-releases-300-from-detention-centres-amid-covid-19-pandemic>.

⁵⁷ See <https://www.demorgen.be/nieuws/300-mensen-zonder-papieren-vrijgelaten-coronavirus-zet-dvz-onder-druk~bf3d626d/>.

⁵⁸ See <https://nos.nl/artikel/2328839-vreemdelingen-vrijgelaten-uit-detentie-vanwege-coronacrisis.html>.

⁵⁹ See <https://www.fieri.it/2020/04/26/pandemia-e-rimpatri-ripensare-la-detenzione-amministrativa-dei-migranti-durante-e-dopo-il-covid-19/>.

⁶⁰ See Directive 2008/115/EC of The European Parliament and of The Council of 16 December 2008 on common standards and procedures in Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals, art. 15(4). The directive can be found [here](#).

GCM Objective 14

Enhance consular protection, assistance and cooperation throughout the migration cycle

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Cooperate to build consular capacities**, train consular officers, promote arrangements for providing consular services collectively where individual States lack capacity, including through technical assistance, and to develop bilateral or regional agreements on various aspects of consular cooperation
- (b) **Involve relevant consular and immigration personnel in existing global and regional fora on migration** in order to exchange information and best practices about issues of mutual concern that pertain to citizens abroad and contribute to comprehensive and evidence-based migration policy development
- (c) **Conclude bilateral or regional agreements on consular assistance and representation** in places where States have an interest in strengthening effective consular services related to migration, but do not have a diplomatic or consular presence
- (d) **Strengthen consular capacities in order to identify, protect and assist our nationals abroad** who are in a situation of vulnerability, including victims of human and labour rights violations or abuse, victims of crime, victims of trafficking in persons, migrants subject to smuggling under aggravating circumstances, and migrant workers exploited in the process of recruitment, by providing training to consular officers on human rights-based, gender-responsive and child-sensitive actions in this regard
- (e) **Provide our nationals abroad the opportunity to register with the country of origin**, in close cooperation with consular, national and local authorities, as well as relevant migrant organizations, as a means to facilitate information, services and assistance to migrants in emergency situations and ensure migrants' accessibility to relevant and timely information, such as by establishing helplines and consolidating national digital databases, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data
- (f) **Provide consular support to our nationals through advice**, including on local laws and customs, interaction with authorities, financial inclusion, and business establishment, **as well as through the issuance of relevant documentation**, such as travel documents, and consular identity documents that may facilitate access to services, assistance in emergency situations, the opening of a bank account, and access to remittance facilities

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **In 2018, Mexico's Foreign Ministry introduced the Consular Assistance Protocol for Mexican Victims of Human Trafficking Abroad.** This protocol was developed by Mexico with the assistance of IOM and the US Embassy in Mexico. It is designed to facilitate the capacity of Mexico's consular network to identify victims and possible victims of trafficking abroad. Furthermore, it lays out criteria, guidelines and specific actions for providing assistance and protection. In the past, Mexico developed two other consular protection protocols with the help of UN agencies: one on unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents (in partnership with UNICEF); and another one on victims of gender-based violence (in partnership with UN Women).⁶¹
- **In Guatemala and Mexico, UNICEF programmes are working to strengthen consular protection for migrant and refugee children – including those who are apprehended or detained in transit.** These programmes have helped develop child-sensitive interview techniques for consular officials to detect children's protection needs and give them information about their rights and options. UNICEF has worked with consular offices to make sure they are able to provide psychosocial support as well.⁶² **The government of Guatemala, with UNICEF support, has developed a protocol for consular support to migrant children.**⁶³
- **The Department of Foreign Affairs' Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers' Affairs (OUMWA) in the Philippines coordinates all assistance to nationals (ATN), along with legal services, for overseas Filipino workers in distress and their family members.** OUMWA was created by the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995, and it provides through Philippines embassies and consulates. Furthermore, OUMWA collaborates with other government agencies to maximize and facilitate services for overseas workers in distress. These agencies include the Department of Labour and Employment, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, the Philippines Overseas Employment Administration, and civil society organizations.⁶⁴ In September 2019, The Department of Foreign Affairs also launched an official "OFW Help" page on Facebook, which gives distressed overseas workers and their families a new means of reaching the government and requesting emergency assistance.⁶⁵

⁶¹ Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores - Gobierno de México (2018), "The Foreign Ministry Presents the Consular Assistance Protocol for Mexican Victims of Human Trafficking", Press Release, no. 309, <https://www.gob.mx/sre/prensa/the-foreign-ministry-presents-the-consular-assistance-protocol-for-mexican-victims-of-human-trafficking?idiom=en>.

⁶² See: UNICEF <https://www.unicef.org/mexico/informes/protocolo-de-proteccion-consular-para-ninos-y-adolescentes-migrantes>

⁶³ See Guatemala [Protocolo nacional para la recepción y atención de niñez y adolescencia migrante](https://www.unicef.org/mexico/informes/protocolo-de-proteccion-consular-para-ninos-y-adolescentes-migrantes)

⁶⁴ OUMWA (DFA Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers' Affairs) (2013), "Frequently asked questions (FAQs) on assistance to nationals (ATN) matters", <https://www.facebook.com/notes/department-of-foreign-affairs-republic-of-the-philippines/frequently-asked-questions-faqs-on-assistance-to-nationals-atn-matters/154198761401633/>.

⁶⁵ Rocamora, J.L. (2019), "DFA launches Facebook page to help distressed OFWs", Philippine News Agency, 17 September, <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1080632>.

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 1: No poverty

- **1.3:** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

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

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

- **16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- **16.6:** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
- **16.9:** By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration
- **16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

- **17.16:** Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries
- **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

GCM Objective 15

Provide access to basic services for migrants

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Enact laws and take measures to ensure that service delivery does not amount to discrimination against migrants** on the grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, disability or other grounds irrespective of cases where differential provision of services based on migration status might apply
- (b) **Ensure that cooperation between service providers and immigration authorities does not exacerbate vulnerabilities of irregular migrants** by compromising their safe access to basic services or unlawfully infringing upon the human rights to privacy, liberty and security of person at places of basic service delivery
- (c) **Establish and strengthen holistic and easily accessible service points at local level**, that are migrant inclusive, offer relevant information on basic services in a gender- and disability-responsive as well as child-sensitive manner, and facilitate safe access thereto
- (d) **Establish or mandate independent institutions at the national or local level**, such as National Human Rights Institutions, to receive, investigate and monitor complaints about situations in which migrants' access to basic services is systematically denied or hindered, facilitate access to redress, and work towards a change in practice
- (e) **Incorporate the health needs of migrants in national and local health care policies and plans**, such as by strengthening capacities for service provision, facilitating affordable and non-discriminatory access, reducing communication barriers, and training health care providers on culturally-sensitive service delivery, in order to promote physical and mental health of migrants and communities overall, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations from the WHO Framework of Priorities and Guiding Principles to Promote the Health of Refugees and Migrants
- (f) **Provide inclusive and equitable quality education to migrant children and youth**, as well as facilitate access to lifelong learning opportunities, including by strengthening the capacities of education systems and by facilitating non-discriminatory access to early childhood development, formal schooling, non-formal education programmes for children for whom the formal system is inaccessible, on-the-job and vocational training, technical education, and language training, as well as by fostering partnerships with all stakeholders that can support this endeavour

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **The municipality of Sfax in Tunisia has expanded its social assistance programmes for migrant residents in the context of COVID-19.**⁶⁶ Actions led by the municipality have benefited from the crucial support of civil society groups and human rights defenders as well as that of the IOM. The programmes have allowed Sfax to reach more than 1200 migrants in the context of the emergency. The mayor of Sfax has also advocated for universal access to public health services, so that migrants can attend local hospitals in case they get sick.
- **Several countries offer access to a wide complement of primary and secondary healthcare to undocumented migrants.**⁶⁷ Thailand's Universal Healthcare Coverage Scheme, introduced in 2001 and extended in 2005, covers migrants as well as their spouses and children, regardless of their legal status.⁶⁸ In Belgium, undocumented migrants can access healthcare free of charge through Urgent Medical Assistance, which covers a broad range of preventive, primary and secondary care, including all medical care covered by the basic national insurance systems. As of 2015, health care expenses are directly reimbursed by the federal authorities.
- **In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, in March 2020 the government of Ireland confirmed that undocumented migrants will be granted full access to social welfare and health care**, and that there will be no data sharing between service providers and immigration officers, in respect of the principle of firewall. A person's immigration status will not be affected if they have applied for social benefits.⁶⁹
- Since 2018, **Serbia's Ministry of Education called for schools in the country to develop and implement plans to support migrant children. These include support to adapt and manage stress and learn the Serbian language.** A new Expert Manual provides guidance for teachers and schools.⁷⁰

⁶⁶ UCLG-CISDPDH (2020), "Challenges and responses to COVID-19: A local perspective from the cities of Sfax and Douala," <https://www.uclg-cisdp.org/en/news/latest-news/challenges-and-responses-covid-19-local-perspective-cities-sfax-and-douala>.

⁶⁷ PICUM (2016), "The sexual and reproductive health rights of undocumented migrants: Narrowing the gap between their rights and the reality in the EU," PICUM, Brussels.

PICUM (2017), "Cities of rights; Ensuring health care for undocumented residents," PICUM, Brussels.

P. Chauvin et al. (2009), "European Observatory Report: Access to health care for undocumented migrants in 11 European countries," Médecins du Monde European observatory on access to healthcare.

A. C. Smith et al. (2018), "The Role of Cities in Integration of Migrants: Facilitating Access to HealthCare for All", in *Global Cities and Integration: A Challenge for The Future* (ed. Matteo Villa), Ledizioni LediPublishing, Milan.

⁶⁸ UN Women, [Leaving no one behind: access to social protection for all migrant women](#)

⁶⁹ See <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/debate/seanad/2020-03-20/8/?highlight%5B0%5D=undocumented>.

⁷⁰ Government of Serbia, Ministry of Education, 2018, available at: <http://socijalnoukijucivanje.gov.rs/en/starting-from-this-year-migrant-children-will-be-included-in-the-preschool-education-programme/>

- **Guyana extended its social protection system (cash transfers) to include migrant children and their families from Venezuela in 2019.** Payments were used for housing or rent and purchase of school supplies.⁷¹
- **Peru's Ministry of Social Development is implementing a specific strategy to provide cash transfers and reach at least 63,000 migrants in situations of extreme vulnerability.** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has officially requested UN support to implement this initiative. The first phase of the program will target 350 families in the Lima North district.⁷²

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 1: No poverty

- **1.3:** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable
- **1.4:** By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance

SDG 3: Good health and well-being

- **3.3:** By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases
- **3.4:** By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being
- **3.7:** By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes
- **3.8:** Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

SDG 4: Quality education

- **4.1:** By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes
- **4.2:** By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education
- **4.3:** By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
- **4.5:** By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations

SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation

- **6.1:** By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all
- **6.2:** By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations

SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy

- **7.1:** By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services

SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities

- **11.1:** By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

- **16.b:** Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development
- **16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- **16.9:** By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration
- **16.10:** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

⁷¹ See: UNICEF <https://www.unicef.org/media/83531/file/Social-Protection-for-Children-and-Families-in-the-Context-of-Migration-and-Displacement-during-COVID-19.pdf>

⁷² See: Government of Peru website <https://www.gob.pe/midis>

GCM Objective 16

Empower migrants and societies to realize full 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
- (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 children for integration activities in order to promote respect for diversity and inclusion, and to prevent all forms discrimination, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **Local governments play a major role in supporting the inclusion process at the first stage of migrants' arrival.** 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,⁷³ while Atlanta's Office of Immigrant Affairs provides specific information on key administrative procedures such as citizenship granting and access to social assistance programmes, as well as on mechanisms for reporting hate crimes and human rights access.⁷⁴
- In the **United Kingdom, local authorities facilitate immediate access to a 15 hours/week education programme (including English, Math, Science, Music, 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.⁷⁵ There are many other examples of national⁷⁶ and local governments⁷⁷ around the world who are promoting the inclusion of migrant and displaced children in their communities.
- **The Migrant Union is an on-going initiative established to advance approaches to enabling the growing numbers of displaced people to access decent, sustainable livelihoods.** Created in mid-2018, the initiative has to date been curated by the Project Catalyst platform of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in close association with the Open Society Foundations, which has provided financial support for the investigatory, start-up phase. As part of the initiative, the **Migrant Union: Digital Livelihoods for People on the Move report** was commissioned in order to explore the nexus between the changing nature of work, particularly driven

⁷³ See https://www.prefeitura.sp.gov.br/cidade/secretarias/direitos_humanos/imigrantes_e_trabalho_decente/.

⁷⁴ Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (2020), [Welcoming Atlanta](#)

⁷⁵ UNICEF UK, 2918, Education for Refugee and Asylum-Seeking Children; Access and Equality in England, Scotland and Wales, available at: https://downloads.unicef.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Access-to-Education-report-PDF.pdf?_ga=2.8489589.1909603603.1548209675-2048078874.1488982883

⁷⁶ See: <https://www.unicef.org/media/83566/file/Good-practices-that-bring-the-Global-Refugee-Compact-to-Life.pdf>

⁷⁷ See: <https://www.unicef.org/sites/default/files/2018-12/Children-Uprooted-What-Local-Governments-Can-Do.pdf>

by digitalisation, and livelihood opportunities for displaced people, together with an ambitious set of proposals for transforming envisaged building blocks in practice.⁷⁸

- **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 socialising.⁷⁹
- **The Colombian government, with the support of UNDP, designed and implements an Income generation strategy for migrants from Venezuela and host communities.** The strategy aims in particular at facilitating 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.

RELEVANT SDGs

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

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

⁷⁸ UNDP (2019) [The Migrant Union - Digital Livelihoods for People on the Move](#)

⁷⁹ For more information, see this [article](#).

GCM Objective 17

Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Enact, implement or maintain legislation that penalizes hate crimes and aggravated hate crimes targeting migrants**, and train law enforcement and other public officials to identify, prevent and respond to such crimes and other acts of violence that target migrants, as well as to provide medical, legal and psychosocial assistance for victims
- (b) **Empower migrants and communities to denounce any acts of incitement to violence directed towards migrants** by informing them of available mechanisms for redress, and ensure that those who actively participate in the commission of a hate crime targeting migrants are held accountable, in accordance with national legislation, while upholding international human rights law, in particular the right to freedom of expression
- (c) **Promote independent, objective and quality reporting of media outlets**, including internet based information, including by sensitizing and educating media professionals on migration-related issues and terminology, investing in ethical reporting standards and advertising, and stopping allocation of public funding or material support to media outlets that systematically promote intolerance, xenophobia, racism and other forms of discrimination towards migrants, in full respect for the freedom of the media
- (d) **Establish mechanisms to prevent, detect and respond to racial, ethnic and religious profiling of migrants** by public authorities, as well as systematic instances of intolerance, xenophobia, racism and all other multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination in partnership with National Human Rights Institutions, including by tracking and publishing trends analyses, and ensuring access to effective complaint and redress mechanisms
- (e) **Provide migrants, especially migrant women, with access to national and regional complaint and redress mechanisms** with a view to promoting accountability and addressing governmental actions related to discriminatory acts and manifestations carried out against migrants and their families
- (f) **Promote awareness-raising campaigns targeted at communities of origin, transit and destination in order to inform public perceptions regarding the positive contributions of safe, orderly and regular migration**, based on evidence and facts, and to end racism, xenophobia and stigmatization against all migrants
- (g) **Engage migrants, political, religious and community leaders, as well as educators and service providers to detect and prevent incidences of intolerance, racism, xenophobia, and other forms of discrimination** against migrants and diasporas and support activities in local communities to promote mutual respect, including in the context of electoral campaigns

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **To reduce ethnic profiling by the police, States can implement various good practices.** For example, they can ensure that:
 - Codes of conduct lay out clear non-discrimination values and standards
 - Codes of conduct are distributed to all law enforcement officers, and that training on the codes is provided in basic training as well as during ongoing active-service training
 - Codes of conduct are enforced by managers and supervisors in law enforcement, whose actions (and non-actions) communicate a strong message about organizational values and external oversight.⁸⁰
- **On 4 December 2004, 18 December was named International Migrants Day by the UN General Assembly.** International Migrants Day is an annual opportunity to debunk false and harmful myths about migrants, to reiterate the need for international cooperation around facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration, and to remind the public of the benefits for sustainable development that migration can bring to both communities of origin and destination, and the need to promote and protect the rights of all migrants. Various States have used International Migrants Day as a way to promote positive perceptions of migrants:
 - In November 2019, the Fourth Global Migration Film Festival – supported by the Embassy of Mexico, the Embassy of Switzerland, the Embassy of Canada, Save the Children and the Bangkok Screening Room – opened in Bangkok, Thailand, leading up to International Migrants Day.⁸¹
 - On the occasion of International Migrants' Day, as part of a global call to Stand Up for Human Rights, OHCHR launched a series of animated videos to amplify the voices of migrants, the communities that welcome them and the conversations they have along the way.⁸²

⁸⁰ Open Society Foundations (2012), *Reducing Ethnic Profiling in the European Union: A Handbook of Good Practices*, Open Society Foundations, New York, https://www.justiceinitiative.org/uploads/449dcf75-c97e-432c-8fd2-f7a884057d48/reducing-ep-in-EU-12172012_0.pdf.

⁸¹ IOM (2019), "Thailand Celebrates International Migrants Day through Global Migration Film Festival", <https://thailand.iom.int/news/thailand-celebrates-international-migrants-day-through-global-migration-film-festival>.

⁸² OHCHR, more information: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Migration/Pages/VideoStories.aspx>

- ILO hosts a Global Media Competition to recognize exemplary media coverage on labour migration and fair recruitment. Now in its sixth year, participants are encouraged to highlight the impact of COVID-19 on migrant workers and their families for the 2020 edition.⁸³
- **In countries around the world, various measures have been taken to refute negative perceptions of migrants and to combat discrimination against migrants.**
 - In Costa Rica, the radio Programme “People without Borders” was broadcast for nine years and engaged its listeners in honest discussions about migration and citizenships issues, while giving them accurate information about migration.
 - In Austria, the Austrian Red Cross created the “Stammtisch APP” to facilitate discussion and undermine misinformation that promoted racism against migrants.⁸⁴
- **Four local authorities in the Latin American region (Quito, Mexico City, Medellín and Montevideo) have analysed structural dynamics of racism and discrimination against vulnerable groups in their city, with a particular emphasis on migrant groups.**⁸⁵ Held in the context of the Coalición LAC network,⁸⁶ this process has allowed the four cities to adopt local plans for social inclusion, which offer analyses of discrimination in the cities and seek to introduce changes in local administration, including new anti-racism policies.
- **To address the discrimination and violence that forcibly returned migrants are facing in communities of origin due to the fear of COVID-19 infection, UNICEF Guatemala has developed radio spots to distil myths and common fears and promote social inclusion.**⁸⁷

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth

- **8.5:** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value
- **8.8:** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

- **10.3:** Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard
- **10.7:** Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies

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

- **17.7:** Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships; data, monitoring and accountability
- **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

⁸³ ILO (2020) [ILO launches sixth Global Media Competition on Labour Migration and Fair Recruitment](#)

⁸⁴ UNODC (2015), *Combating violence against migrants: Criminal justice measures to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families and to protect victims*, UNODC, Vienna, https://www.unodc.org/documents/justice-and-prison-reform/UNODC_Combating_Violence_against_Migrants.pdf.

⁸⁵ El Comercio (2019), “En Quito se analiza el fenómeno de la discriminación, el racismo y la xenofobia,” https://www.elcomercio.com/app_public.php/actualidad/discriminacion-racismo-xenofobia-coalicion-cooperacion.html.

⁸⁶ For more about this coalition, see: <http://coalicionalac.org>.

⁸⁷ See: [Addressing stigma: Returning migrants & COVID-19; IGM video on how to approach & communicate about returns in the context of COVID-19](#)

GCM Objective 18

Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Develop standards and guidelines for the mutual recognition of foreign qualifications and non-formally acquired skills** in different sectors in collaboration with the respective industries with a view to ensuring worldwide compatibility based on existing models and best practices
- (b) **Promote transparency of certifications and compatibility of National Qualifications Frameworks** by agreeing on standard criteria, indicators and assessment parameters, and by creating and strengthening national skills profiling tools, registries or institutions in order to facilitate effective and efficient mutual recognition procedures at all skills levels
- (c) **Conclude bilateral, regional or multilateral mutual recognition agreements or include recognition provisions in other agreements**, such as labour mobility or trade agreements, in order to provide equivalence or comparability in national systems, such as automatic or managed mutual recognition mechanisms
- (d) **Use technology and digitalization to evaluate and mutually recognize skills more comprehensively** based on formal credentials as well as non-formally acquired competences and professional experience at all skills levels
- (e) **Build global skills partnerships amongst countries** that strengthen training capacities of national authorities and relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and trade unions, and foster skills development of workers in countries of origin and migrants in 26 countries of destination with a view to preparing trainees for employability in the labour markets of all participating countries
- (f) **Promote inter-institutional networks and collaborative programmes for partnerships between the private sector and educational institutions in countries of origin and destination** to enable mutually beneficial skills development opportunities for migrants, communities and participating partners, including by building on the best practices of the Business Mechanism developed in the context of the Global Forum on Migration and Development
- (g) **Engage in bilateral partnerships and programmes in cooperation with relevant stakeholders that promote skills development, mobility and circulation**, such as student exchange programmes, scholarships, professional exchange programmes and trainee- or apprenticeships that include options for beneficiaries, after successful completion of these programmes, to seek employment and engage in entrepreneurship
- (h) **Cooperate with the private sector and employers to make available easily accessible and gender-responsive remote or online skills development and matching programmes** to migrants at all skills levels, including early and occupation-specific language training, on-the-job training and access to advanced training programmes, to enhance their employability in sectors with demand for labour based on the industry's knowledge of labour market dynamics, especially to promote the economic empowerment of women
- (i) **Enhance the ability of migrant workers to transition from a job or employer to another** by making available documentation that recognizes skills acquired on the job or through training in order to optimize the benefits of upskilling
- (j) **Develop and promote innovative ways to mutually recognize and assess formally and informally acquired skills**, including through timely and complementary training to job seekers, mentoring, and internship programmes in order to fully recognize existing credentials and provide certificates of proficiency for the validation of newly acquired skills
- (k) **Establish screening mechanisms of credentials and offer information to migrants on how to get their skills and qualifications assessed and recognized prior to departure**, including in recruitment processes or at an early stage after arrival to improve employability
- (l) **Cooperate to promote documentation and information tools**, in partnership with relevant stakeholders, **that provide an overview of a worker's credentials, skills and qualifications**, recognized in countries of origin, transit and destination, in order to enable employers to evaluate the suitability of migrant workers in job application processes

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **One regional example of an approach to harmonizing skills recognition is the Europass portal.** This EU initiative facilitates skills recognition through the provision of standardized documentation that records qualifications, skills and experience in Europe. The Europass portal is operated by the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training in 27 distinct languages. The Europass approach includes a standardized curriculum vitae format and a Europass Skills Passport, which serves as an electronic portfolio of a person's qualifications and skills which any person can use regardless of nationality (noting that this does automatically provide harmonisation of qualifications obtained outside of Europe with European standards).⁸⁸

⁸⁸ Braňka, J. (2016), "Understanding the potential impact of skills recognition systems on labour markets: Research report", ILO, Geneva

- **Since 2012, ILO has been assisting ASEAN States to implement mutual skills recognition in middle to low-skilled occupations.** This support is meant to help ASEAN prepare for its future as a region boasting the free flow of skilled labour. While ASEAN's existing mutual recognition agreements focus on eight categories of high-skilled occupations, ILO is supporting the region with expanding skills recognition to middle to low-skilled occupations. The ILO's engagement with ASEAN Member States since 2012 has mainly involved helping build capacity and institutional mechanisms. It will now move into the stage of piloting mutual skills recognition in a number of corridors: Thailand with Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar in masonry, bricklaying and plastering; Thailand with Cambodia in electrical wiring construction; and Thailand with Myanmar in the operation of sewing machines.⁸⁹
- **In 2008, Japan launched a Programme aimed at recruiting nursing trainees from the Philippines and Indonesia under Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs).** The programme is designed to attract trainees that already have experience and training as nurses or care workers. The Japanese government covers recruitment, living expenses and travel, while employers cover half a year of Japanese language instruction.⁹⁰

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 3: Good health and well-being

- **3.c:** Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing State

SDG 4: Quality education

- **4.4:** By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship
- **4.b:** By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries

SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth

- **8.5:** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value
- **8.6:** By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

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

SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

- **17.7:** Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships; data, monitoring and accountability
- **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

⁸⁹ ILO (2019), [Mutual recognition of skills in ASEAN](#).

⁹⁰ Clemens, M.A. (2015), "Global Skill Partnerships: a proposal for technical training in a mobile world", *IZA Journal of Labor Policy*, vol. 4, no. 2, <https://izajolp.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40173-014-0028-z>.

GCM Objective 19

Create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Ensure the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda** by fostering and facilitating the positive effects of migration for the realization of all Sustainable Development Goals 27
- (b) **Integrate migration into development planning and sectoral policies at local, national, regional and global levels**, taking into consideration relevant existing policy guidelines and recommendations, such as the GMG Handbook on Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning, in order to strengthen policy coherence and effectiveness of development cooperation
- (c) **Invest in research on the impact of non-financial contributions of migrants and diasporas to sustainable development** in countries of origin and destination, such as knowledge and skills transfer, social and civic engagement, and cultural exchange, with a view to developing evidence-based policies and strengthening global policy discussions
- (d) **Facilitate the contributions of migrants and diasporas to their countries of origin**, including by establishing or strengthening government structures or mechanisms at all levels, such as dedicated diaspora offices or focal points, diaspora policy advisory boards for governments to account for the potential of migrants and diasporas in migration and development policy-making, and dedicated diaspora focal points in diplomatic or consular missions
- (e) **Develop targeted support programmes and financial products that facilitate migrant and diaspora investments and entrepreneurship**, including by providing administrative and legal support in business creation, granting seed capital-matching, establish diaspora bonds and diaspora development funds, investment funds, and organize dedicated trade fairs
- (f) **Provide easily accessible information and guidance**, including through digital platforms, as well as tailored mechanisms for the coordinated and effective financial, voluntary or philanthropic engagement of migrants and diasporas, especially in humanitarian emergencies in their countries of origin, including by involving consular missions
- (g) **Enable political participation and engagement of migrants in their countries of origin**, including in peace and reconciliation processes, in elections and political reforms, such as by establishing voting registries for citizens abroad, and by parliamentary representation, in accordance with national legislation
- (h) **Promote migration policies that optimize the benefits of diasporas for countries of origin and destination** and their communities, by facilitating flexible modalities to travel, work and invest with minimal administrative burdens, including by reviewing and revising visa, residency and citizenship regulations, as appropriate
- (i) **Cooperate with other States, the private sector and employers organizations to enable migrants and diasporas**, especially those in highly technical fields and in high demand, **to carry out some of their professional activities and engage in knowledge transfer in their home countries**, without necessarily losing employment, residence status, or earned social benefits
- (j) **Build partnerships between local authorities, local communities, the private sector, diasporas, hometown associations and migrant organizations to promote knowledge and skills transfer** between their countries of origin and countries of destination, including by mapping the diasporas and their skills, as a means to maintain the link between diasporas and their country of origin

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **Several sub-Saharan African countries have established (or will establish) institutional mechanisms for diaspora outreach and engagement.**
 - Burundi, well aware of the role its diaspora can play in the fight against poverty, has established a diaspora department within its Ministry of External Affairs.
 - The government of Nigeria has created the Nigerians in the Diaspora Organization (NIDO) and allocates office space at its embassy in Washington, DC for coordination. One of NIDO's objectives is to provide a platform for diaspora members to dialogue with the Nigerian government on efficient and practical ways to affect the Nigerian economy.
 - In Zimbabwe, the government would like to put forth a comprehensive policy for migration management and diaspora engagement. At one point, an inter-ministerial team from Zimbabwe took a tour of the Philippines and India to learn lessons from these countries on how to create institutions for the coordination of diaspora-related issues.⁹¹
- **The IOM office in Moldova, collaborating with Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), identified how a crowdfunding platform could be best utilized to promote the efficient use of migrant funds.** Recommendations include to use a hybrid crowdfunding model that begins by channelling diaspora contributions into community and development projects, and

⁹¹ Fragile States Unit (OSFU) (n.d.), "The Role of the Diaspora in National Building: Lessons for Fragile and Post-Conflict Countries in Africa", African Development Bank, <https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Project-and-Operations/2011%20The%20role%20of%20the%20Diaspora%20in%20Nation%20building%20-%20lessons%20for%20fragile%20and%20post-%20conflict%20countries%20in%20Africa.pdf>

transitions into becoming a platform that attracts both financial investments and donations and to have the platform focus on certain areas, especially manufacturing, IT and education⁹²

- **iDIASPORA, hosted by the IOM, is an online platform that invites members of different diasporas to collaborate and connect across the world and across transnational communities.** The platform aims to allow diaspora members to work together, learn from each other, and generative sustainable positive impacts in both countries of destination and origin. Using the platform, users can find and connect with members of the online community with whom they share common areas of work and interest.⁹³
- **Through the Integrated Migration and Local Development Project (MiDL), supported by UNDP and Switzerland, Moldova managed to ensure a two-way dialogue through organizing the diaspora/migrants and local development programmes where more than 10,000 migrants participated.** The project emphasized the national ownership and strengthened capacities at national and local levels to enable a socio-economic environment, secure employment support, reduce disparities and inequalities, provide income generating opportunities, and ensure sustainable local development. The project resulted in a national comprehensive strategic framework, i.e. the National Employment Strategy for 2017-2021, developed in cooperation with ILO, that steers and guides all national employment policy interventions, including on labour migration and reintegration. To date, more than 300,000 people benefit from better services in their villages and cities ⁹⁴

RELEVANT SDGs

All SDGs

Migration can be a powerful driver of sustainable development for migrants and their communities in countries of origin, transit and destination, The extent to which migrants are able to contribute to sustainable development outcomes depends on migrants' rights being upheld, their ability to access services and to fully integrate as contributing members of their communities. Accordingly, all SDGs are relevant from the 2030 Agenda's promise to leave no-one behind.

⁹² Columbia SIPA (School of International and Public Affairs) (n.d.), "Developing a crowdfunding platform for diaspora investment in Moldova's development", <https://sipa.columbia.edu/academics/capstone-projects/developing-crowdfunding-platform-diaspora-investment-moldovas>

⁹³ IOM (2019), "iDIASPORA", <https://idiaspora.org/community>

⁹⁴ UNDP, more information about the project can be found here: https://www.md.undp.org/content/moldova/en/home/projects/MIDL_Project.html

GCM Objective 20

Promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Develop a roadmap to reduce the transaction costs of migrant remittances to less than 3 per cent** and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent by 2030 in line with target 10.c of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- (b) **Promote and support the United Nations International Day of Family Remittances and the IFAD Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development** as an important platform to build and strengthen partnerships for innovative solutions on cheaper, faster and safer transfer of remittances with all relevant stakeholders
- (c) **Harmonize remittance market regulations and increase the interoperability of remittance infrastructure along corridors** by ensuring that measures to combat illicit financial flows and money laundering do not impede migrant remittances through undue, excessive or discriminatory policies
- (d) **Establish conducive policy and regulatory frameworks that promote a competitive and innovative remittance market**, remove unwarranted obstacles to non-bank remittance service providers in accessing payment system infrastructure, apply tax exemptions or incentives to remittance transfers, promote market access to diverse service providers, incentivize the private sector to expand remittance services, and enhance the security and predictability of low-value transactions by bearing in mind de-risking concerns, and developing a methodology to distinguish remittances from illicit flows, in consultation with remittance service providers and financial regulators
- (e) **Develop innovative technological solutions for remittance transfer**, such as mobile payments, digital tools or e-banking, to reduce costs, improve speed, enhance security, increase transfer through regular channels and open up gender-responsive distribution channels to underserved populations, including for persons in rural areas, persons with low levels of literacy, and persons with disabilities
- (f) **Provide accessible information on remittance transfer costs by provider and channel**, such as comparison websites, in order to increase the transparency and competition on the remittance transfer market, and promote financial literacy and inclusion of migrants and their families through education and training
- (g) **Develop programmes and instruments to promote investments from remittance senders in local development and entrepreneurship in countries of origin**, such as through matching grant mechanisms, municipal bonds and partnerships with hometown associations, in order to enhance the transformative potential of remittances beyond the individual households of migrant workers at skills levels
- (h) **Enable migrant women to access financial literacy training and formal remittance transfer systems**, as well as to open a bank account, own and manage financial assets, investments and business as means to address gender inequalities and foster their active participation in the economy
- (i) **Provide access to and develop banking solutions and financial instruments for migrants**, including low-income and female-headed households, such as bank accounts that permit 29 direct deposits by employers, savings accounts, loans and credits in cooperation with the banking sector

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **The Northwest Area Immigrant Asset-Building Initiative aims to promote integration, citizenship and financial security for immigrant communities living in the Northwest region of the United States.** Launched jointly by Inclusiv, a certified intermediary of the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, and Grantmakers Concerned with Immigration and Refugees, the initiative embodies a deep understanding of the types of situations immigrants are more likely to find themselves in: lacking health insurance and access to essential services (including financial services), and more likely to live in poverty and have the cost of naturalization applications pose a financial barrier.⁹⁵ With this in mind, the initiative has awarded grants to two entities, OneAmerica and the Diversity Center of Iowa, both of which help their clients with citizenship applications and fees through providing financial and legal assistance.⁹⁶
- **Countries like Bangladesh and Sri Lanka have carried out various interventions to lower remittance costs at the national level.**
 - After Bangladesh banned exclusivity agreements, therefore promoting competitive market conditions, the costs of remittances went down.
 - After Sri Lanka reformed its national payment system, it was able to bring down the cost of sending remittances from 10% to 5%.⁹⁷

⁹⁵ Inclusiv (2020), [Northwest Area Immigrant Asset-Building Initiative](#)

⁹⁶ Inclusiv (2020), [Financial Inclusion for Immigrant Consumers: Seattle Roundtable Blog](#)

⁹⁷ Cirasino, M. (2014), "Remittance Cost Reduction: Intervention, monitoring and impacts", PowerPoint presentation, 12th Coordination Meeting on International Migration, 21 February 2014, New York, https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/events/coordination/12/documents/presentations/CIRASINO_presentation_12CM.pdf

- **In January 2020, Remitly, an online money transfer service based in the US, joined forces with Alipay, making it possible for Remitly customers to transfer money from their computer or smartphone, and for money transfers to be subsequently received using the Alipay app.**⁹⁸ Technological developments in the area of mobile payments have the potential to facilitate faster and cheaper remittances.⁹⁹
- **After launching SendMoneyPacific (SMP) — a website for comparing money transfer costs — Australia and New Zealand saw their remittance costs decrease by 2.9 per cent and 2.1 per cent, respectively.**¹⁰⁰
- **On International Day of Family Remittances (16 June) 2020, The UN Network on migration released a Statement and policy guidance regarding the impact of COVID-19 on family remittances.** The statement urges States to intensify efforts to implement their commitments to promote a faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster the financial inclusion of migrants and offers concrete policy recommendations aligned with actions outlined in objective 20 of the GCM.¹⁰¹

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 1: No poverty

- **1.4:** By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance

SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth

- **8.10:** Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

- **10.c:** By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent

SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

- **17.3:** Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources
- **17.7:** Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed
- **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

⁹⁸ Hurst, S. (2020), "Online Money Transfer Service Remitly Joins Forces With Alipay to Offer International Remittances", 27 January, Crowdfund Insider, <https://www.crowdfundinsider.com/2020/01/156825-online-money-transfer-service-remitly-joins-forces-with-alipay-to-offer-international-remittances/>

⁹⁹ Kunze, J. (n.d.), "How technology is reimagining remittances", Industry Dive, <https://www.retaildive.com/ex/mobilecommercedaily/how-technology-is-reimagining-remittances>

¹⁰⁰ Cirasino, M. (2014), "Remittance Cost Reduction: Intervention, monitoring and impacts", PowerPoint presentation, 12th Coordination Meeting on International Migration, 21 February 2014, New York, https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/events/coordination/12/documents/presentations/CIRASINO_presentation_12CM.pdf

¹⁰¹ UN Network on Migration, International Day of Family Remittances 2020 [Statement](#) and [Policy Guidance](#)

GCM Objective 21

Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Develop and implement bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation frameworks and agreements**, including readmission agreements, ensuring that return and readmission of migrants to their own country is safe, dignified and in full compliance with international human rights law, including the rights of the child, by determining clear and mutually agreed procedures that uphold procedural safeguards, guarantee individual assessments and legal certainty, and by ensuring they also include provisions that facilitate sustainable reintegration
- (b) **Promote gender-responsive and child-sensitive return and reintegration programmes**, that may include legal, social and financial support, guaranteeing that all returns in the context of such voluntary programmes effectively take place on the basis of the migrant's free, prior and informed consent, and that returning migrants are assisted in their reintegration process through effective partnerships, including to avoid they become displaced in the country of origin upon return
- (c) **Cooperate on identification of nationals and issuance of travel documents for safe and dignified return and readmission** in cases of persons that do not have the legal right to stay on another State's territory, by establishing reliable and efficient means of identification of own nationals such as through the addition of biometric identifiers in population registries, and by digitalizing civil registry systems, with full respect to the right to privacy and protection of personal data
- (d) **Foster institutional contacts between consular authorities and relevant officials from countries of origin and destination, and provide adequate consular assistance to returning migrants** prior to return by facilitating access to documentation, travel documents, and other services, in order to ensure predictability, safety and dignity in return and readmission
- (e) **Ensure that the return of migrants who do not have the legal right to stay on another State's territory is safe and dignified**, follows an individual assessment, is carried out by competent authorities through prompt and effective cooperation between countries of origin and destination, and allows all applicable legal remedies to be exhausted, in compliance with due process guarantees, and other obligations under international human rights law
- (f) **Establish or strengthen national monitoring mechanisms on return**, in partnership with relevant stakeholders, that provide independent recommendations on ways and means to 30 strengthen accountability, in order to guarantee the safety, dignity, and human rights of all returning migrants
- (g) **Ensure that return and readmission processes involving children are carried out only after a determination of the best interests of the child**, take into account the right to family life, family unity, and that a parent, legal guardian or specialized official accompanies the child throughout the return process, ensuring that appropriate reception, care and reintegration arrangements for children are in place in the country of origin upon return
- (h) **Facilitate the sustainable reintegration of returning migrants into community life** by providing them equal access to social protection and services, justice, psycho-social assistance, vocational training, employment opportunities and decent work, recognition of skills acquired abroad, and financial services, in order to fully build upon their entrepreneurship, skills and human capital as active members of society and contributors to sustainable development in the country of origin upon return i) Identify and address the needs of the communities to which migrants return by including respective provisions in national and local development strategies, infrastructure planning, budget allocations and other relevant policy decisions and cooperating with local authorities and relevant stakeholders

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **States can refer to OHCHR's recommendations for ensuring human rights are respected in the context of return, including:**
 - *Non-refoulement* and the prohibition of arbitrary or collective expulsion;
 - Due process and procedural safeguards;
 - Sustainability of returns;
 - Return monitoring and accountability (including during post-return).¹⁰²
- **The IOM Return and Reintegration Platform, which aims to enhance their capacity and know-how around facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission.** On this platform, government actors can connect with other practitioners around sharing knowledge and good practices in the realm of return and reintegration. Funded by the European Union and created by the IOM in 2017, the platform

¹⁰² See OHCHR (2018), "Expert Meeting on 'Protecting the human rights of migrants in the context of Return': Informal Summary", 6 March, <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Migration/Return/InformalSummary.pdf>

offers a repertoire of reintegration initiatives (initiatives can either be searched for or suggested), a community space to connect with peers and experts, e-courses and webinars, and a large repository of resources on the topic of return and reintegration.¹⁰³

- **IOM and UNICEF are working with the government of Ethiopia and its social service workforce to support thousands of migrant children – many unaccompanied – returning from 8 countries during COVID-19 with child protection services.** This includes registering returnees, identifying those who are in particularly vulnerable situations, ensuring returnees are referred to appropriate services based on identified needs, tracing families of unaccompanied children, ensuring children return safely to their homes, and supporting reintegration to the community. The two agencies are also supplying the returnees with dignity kits, soap, recreational kits, tents, beddings, and other essential items.¹⁰⁴
- **UNICEF and the Ministry of Education of Honduras have jointly developed a national educational bridges program that has successfully reintegrated over 2,000 out-of-school children into educational modalities,** mainly internally displaced and returned migrant children and adolescents. The program includes not only academic levelling, but also counselling, psychosocial support, nutrition, and basic social protection services. It is based on coordination across key sectors – In Honduras this implies involvement from the ministry of education, national child protection authority, the social development ministry, local governments and community organizations.¹⁰⁵
- **The UK Family Returns Process includes detailed and documented steps, each with specific safeguards for children.** It seeks to) avoid the forced return of children and families; ensure that any enforcement action takes into account the welfare of children and the wider family; better prepare families for return and give them the opportunity to undertake independent departure; and give families the opportunity to make further representations and seek judicial reviews before enforcement action commences. An individual return plan is developed, which includes, for example, how the best interests of the child are being duly considered. This plan is referred and discussed with the Independent Family Returns Panel (IFRP) together with the family's immigration history and other relevant information (e.g. school, health or social services records).¹⁰⁶

RELEVANT SDGs

SDG 1: No poverty

- **1.3:** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable
- **1.4:** By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

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

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

- **16.b:** Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development
- **16.9:** By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration

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

¹⁰⁴ UNICEF (July 2020), [Taking and Inspiring Action: UNICEF Practices for Children on the Move during COVID-19](#)

¹⁰⁵ UNICEF, [Honduras Country Office Annual Report 2019](#)

¹⁰⁶ See the [UK Home Office's family returns process \(FRP\)](#)

PICUM (2019), [Durable solutions and the best interests of the child in the context of return processes](#)

GCM Objective 22

Establish mechanisms for the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- (a) **Establish or maintain non-discriminatory national social protection systems**, including social protection floors for nationals and migrants, in line with the ILO Recommendation 202 on Social Protection Floors
- (b) **Conclude reciprocal bilateral, regional or multilateral social security agreements on the portability of earned benefits for migrant workers at all skills levels**, which refer to applicable social protection floors in the respective States, applicable social security entitlements and provisions, such as pensions, healthcare or other earned benefits, or integrate such provisions into other relevant agreements, such as those on long-term and temporary labour migration
- (c) **Integrate provisions on the portability of entitlements and earned benefits into national social security frameworks**, designate focal points in countries of origin, transit and destination that facilitate portability requests from migrants, address the difficulties women and older persons can face in accessing social protection, and establish dedicated instruments, such as migrant welfare funds in countries of origin that support migrant workers and their families

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- A World Bank-sponsored project studying four migration corridors between EU and non-EU countries — namely, Austria-Turkey, Germany-Turkey, Belgium-Morocco, and France-Morocco – positively found that BSSAs did not create any significant advantage or disadvantage that risked affecting labour mobility on a major scale.¹⁰⁷ The project also confirmed the idea that migration decisions are marginally impacted by the presence or absence of portability.¹⁰⁸
- **The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) allows for the accumulation of social security contributions across CARICOM Member States.** This allows migrant workers to meet state pension contribution thresholds.¹⁰⁹
- **There are parts of social protection systems that are inclusive of all regardless of status**, or include measures specifically targeting migrants who are excluded from state welfare. Some of these measures have emerged to address the widespread loss of employment of people already in in-work poverty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - **In Ireland, the Pandemic Unemployment Payment, a weekly cash payment of 350 euros available for 12 weeks for people who have lost their employment due to COVID-19, includes undocumented workers.** Undocumented workers can access information from social welfare services and apply for support free from the fear of their personal data being transferred for immigration purposes.¹¹⁰
 - **A statewide public-private partnership in California will provide a total of a total of \$125 million financial support to undocumented migrants impacted by COVID-19.** California will provide \$75 million to a Disaster Relief Fund to support undocumented Californians impacted by COVID-19 and ineligible for other financial support, due to their immigration status. Approximately 150,000 undocumented adult Californians will receive a one-time cash payment of \$500 per adult with a cap of \$1,000 per household. It will be dispersed through nonprofit organizations. Philanthropic partners have committed to raising an additional \$50 million to reach in disaster relief assistance.¹¹¹
 - **Using a \$20 million donation from Open Society Foundations, the New York City COVID-19 Immigrant Emergency Relief programme will create a citywide network of community-based organizations that will provide direct, one-time emergency relief payments to immigrant families, including undocumented workers** (\$400 per individual, usually with a cap of \$1,000 per household). This initial funding will reach up to 20,000 undocumented workers and their families affected by COVID-19 related job loss and facing financial distress.¹¹²

RELEVANT SDGs

¹⁰⁷ The project also highlighted the need for enhanced research around BSSAs certain areas (such as fiscal fairness).

¹⁰⁸ Holzmann, R. (2018), "The portability of social benefits across borders", IZA, Bonn, <https://wol.iza.org/uploads/articles/452/pdfs/the-portability-of-social-benefits-across-borders.pdf>

¹⁰⁹ Hagen-Zanker, J. (2018), "Four steps to ensure the mobility of social security for migrants", *Blog*, 12 April, Migration Data Portal, <https://migrationdataportal.org/blog/four-steps-ensure-mobility-social-security-migrants>

¹¹⁰ More information can be found here:

<https://services.mywelfare.ie/en/topics/covid-19-payments/covid-19-pandemic-unemployment-payment/>
<https://www.mrci.ie/2020/04/22/rights-of-undocumented-workers-to-access-social-welfare-supports-during-covid-19/>

¹¹¹ For more information, see <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/4.15.20-EO-N-50-20.pdf> and <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/4.15.20-EO-N-50-20-text.pdf>

¹¹² For more information, go here: <https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/262-20/mayor-de-blasio-new-york-city-covid-19-immigrant-emergency-relief-program-open>.

SDG 1: No poverty

- **1.3:** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

SDG 5: Gender equality

- **5.4:** Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

SDG 10: reduced inequalities

- **10.4:** Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality
- **10.7:** Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies

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 context

GCM Objective 23

Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration

ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

- a) **Support other States as we collectively implement the Global Compact**, including through the provision of financial and technical assistance, in line with national priorities, policies action plans and strategies, through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach
- b) **Increase international and regional cooperation to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** in geographic areas from where irregular migration systematically originates due to consistent impacts of poverty, unemployment, climate change and disasters, inequality, corruption, poor governance, among other structural factors, through appropriate cooperation frameworks, innovative partnerships and the involvement of all relevant stakeholders, while upholding national ownership and shared responsibility
- c) **Involve and support local authorities in the identification of needs and opportunities for international cooperation for the effective implementation of the Global Compact** and integrate their perspectives and priorities into development strategies, programmes and planning on migration, as a means to ensure good governance as well as policy coherence across levels of government and policy sectors, and maximize the effectiveness and impact of international development cooperation
- d) **Make use of the capacity-building mechanism and build upon other existing instruments to strengthen the capacities of relevant authorities** by mobilizing technical, financial and human resources from States international financial institutions, the private sector, international organizations and other sources in order to assist all States in fulfilling the commitments outlined in this Global Compact
- e) **Conclude bilateral, regional or multilateral mutually beneficial, tailored and transparent partnerships**, in line with international law, **that develop targeted solutions to migration policy issues** of common interest and address opportunities and challenges of migration in accordance with the Global Compact

POTENTIAL RESPONSES / CONCRETE EXAMPLES

- **On 22 January 2020, more than 80 mayors gathering in Quito, Ecuador endorsed a Call to Local Action on Migration to accelerate new action around the GCM and the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR).** The purpose of the mayors' meeting – which gathered mayors and government actors from 56 cities and regions from around the world – was to discuss the theme “From Large Movement to the Global Compacts: Cities as First Responders.” This meeting took place at the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). One of the key takeaways from the forum was that international goals cannot be delivered if cities do not deliver, and while city governments and national governments may differ in their approaches, they can agree on common internationally agreed objectives, such as those in the GCM, GCR SDGs.¹¹³
- **States can support other States in implementing the GCM by contributing to the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (Migration MPTF), which is the “start-up fund” of the capacity building mechanism highlighted in the GCM.** The MPTF is a UN financing mechanism that has been designed to support governments in implementing the GCM at the national level.¹¹⁴ Launched by UN Member States and UN entities in July 2019, the MPTF is now open for contributions,¹¹⁵
- **In 2007, the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) adopted the Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, thereby committing to promoting humane, dignified, decent and remunerative employment for migrant workers.** The ASEAN declaration outlines the contributions that migrant workers make to the societies and economies of countries of origin and destination, and calls on countries of origin and destination to promote the dignity and potential of migrant workers, to cooperation with each other to find solutions when migrant workers become undocumented through no fault of their own. Importantly, the declaration proposes the development of an ASEAN instrument on the protection and promotion of migrant workers' rights.¹¹⁶
- **The Initiative for Child Rights in the Global Compacts** is a multi-stakeholder partnership which brings together over 30 Civil Society Organizations, UN Agencies, Special Procedures, Philanthropy Foundations, Trade Unions, and individual experts with the common aim

¹¹³ UCLG, Mayors Migration Council and IOM (2020), “The 6th Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration and Development - FROM LARGE MOVEMENT TO THE GLOBAL COMPACTS: CITIES AS FIRST RESPONDERS”, press release, 6 February, https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd_mayoral_forum_press_release_final.pdf.

¹¹⁴ UNDP (n.d.), “Start-up Fund for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration”, <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/MIG00>.<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/MIG00>.

¹¹⁵ IOM (2019), “United Nations Launched Multi-Partner Trust Fund office to Support Cooperation on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration”, 17 July, <https://www.iom.int/news/united-nations-launches-multi-partner-trust-fund-office-support-cooperation-safe-orderly-and-regular-migration>.

¹¹⁶ ILO Country Office for Bangladesh (2018), Good practices and provisions in multilateral and bilateral labour agreements and memoranda of understanding, ILO, Dhaka, https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-dhaka/documents/publication/wcms_683740.pdf.

to ensure that children's rights are at the very heart of the two global compacts on migration and refugees. It is co-chaired by Save the Children and Terre des Hommes.¹¹⁷

RELEVANT SDGs

Through enhanced partnerships within and among countries, regions and globally on migration governance, good migration governance can become an accelerators towards all 17 Sustainable Development Goals depending on country context and migratory dynamics. In particular, the following SDG targets relating to partnerships are relevant:

SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

- **17.3:** Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources
- **17.6:** Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism
- **17.7:** Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed
- **17.14:** Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development
- **17.16:** Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries
- **17.17:** Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships, data, monitoring and accountability
- **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 context

¹¹⁷ For more information see [The Initiative for Child Rights in the Global Compacts](#)

Useful websites

Addis Ababa Action Agenda

https://www.un.org/esa/ffd/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/AAAA_Outcome.pdf

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)

https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/180713_agreed_outcome_global_compact_for_migration.pdf

Global Compact on Refugees

https://www.unhcr.org/gcr/GCR_English.pdf

Global Forum on Migration and Development

<https://www.gfmd.org/>

High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf>

HRBA Portal

<https://hrbaportal.undg.org/>

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CMW.aspx>

New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants

https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/71/1

New Urban Agenda

<http://habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/>

Paris Agreement

<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

<https://www.unisdr.org/we/coordinate/sendai-framework>

Sustainable Development Goals

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

UN development system reform 101

<https://reform.un.org/content/un-development-system-reform-101>

UN Human Rights Bodies

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/Pages/HumanRightsBodies.aspx>

UN Network on Migration

<http://migrationnetwork.un.org/>

UNSDG Guidance Note on Human Rights for Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams

<https://unsdg.un.org/resources/unsdg-guidance-note-human-rights-resident-coordinators-and-un-country-teams>

UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants 2016

<https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/summit>

Voluntary National Reviews

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/>