

Engaging the private sector for enhanced migrants' socio-economic (re)integration

Side Event at the International Migration Review Forum
18 May 2022, 8:30–9:30 New York / 14:30 – 15:30 Geneva, Virtual

Background

In 2022, nearly four years after the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), governments, stakeholders and the United Nations system will meet to discuss the successes and challenges of implementing this landmark cooperative framework. The first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) is being held under the auspices of the General Assembly, chaired by the President of the General Assembly, at the United Nations (UN) Headquarters in New York from 17 to 20 May 2022, with a preparatory stakeholder hearing taking place on 16 May.

A series of side events will be organized in the margins of the IMRF. They will provide an opportunity to discuss good practices, challenges and recommendations to further the implementation of the GCM.

Description of the side event on private sector engagement

The GCM has highlighted the importance of multi-stakeholder approaches, including engagement with the private sector together with other non-governmental stakeholders, as part of more comprehensive solutions to migration and development. The resources and unique capabilities of the private sector and its different constituents make it a crucial partner for improving the lives of migrants and communities around them, and for enhancing the contribution of migrants to sustainable development in countries of origin and destination alike. Companies and other private sector actors can contribute to the socio-economic (re)integration of immigrants and returnees in multiple ways, such as through integrating migrants as part of their workforce, leveraging their supply chains to employ migrants, but also offering or supporting training opportunities, and advocating for migrants' (re)integration. International organizations as well as national and local governments have increasingly involved the private sector in migration processes over the last two decades. This side event aims to take stock of lessons learnt from existing initiatives and lay the ground for further interventions.

This side event has two main objectives:

- **Sharing experiences and good practices:** We will cover concrete examples and lessons learnt of private sector engagement for the integration of immigrants and the reintegration of returnees. This will allow us to continue updating the existing catalogue of context-adaptable private sector practices to engage for migrants.
- **Foster multi-stakeholder approaches:** We will bring different stakeholders together and encourage a discussion on how current approaches could be replicated, improved or expanded. This will allow exchange across different country contexts about the concrete engagement of private sector actors and initiatives, country-specific as well as common challenges, steps forward and sustainability considerations.

Format

The event will take place on Zoom. Register [here](#) to receive the Zoom link.

Please note that the event will be held in English only (no interpretation is available).

Suggested agenda

Wednesday, May 18, 2022 Time: 8:30 – 9:30 (New York) 14:30 – 15:30 (Geneva) Venue: Zoom (RVSP here)	
5 min	Opening remarks
30 min	Panel discussion Each speaker will start with a brief introduction sharing their examples of private sector engagement for migrants, after which the floor will be opened up for discussion. Moderator: Ms. Dima Al-Khatib , UNDP Resident Representative, Republic of Moldova <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Gary Slaiman, Counsel to Morgan Lewis & Bockius, Member of the Executive Committee of the Business Advisory Group on Migration and Corporate Outreach Advisor to Talent Beyond Boundaries, United States • Ms. Estrella Mai Dizon-Anonuevo, Executive Director, Global Academy on Migration and Development and Chairperson, Atikha Overseas Workers and Communities Initiatives Inc., Philippines • Mr. Robinson Sathekge, Sub-Unit Head Migration, City of Johannesburg, South Africa • Ms. Jihen Zgouli, Responsible Marketing, Maghreb, Tunisia • Mr. Rodrigo Terán, President of the Mexicali Chapter of the National Chamber of the Restaurant and Seasoned Food Industry (CANIRAC), Mexico
20 min	Discussion / Q&A Guiding questions for discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can we learn from existing interventions for the socio-economic (re)integration of migrants? • What makes initiatives successful and what are the most common challenges experienced? • How do approaches for immigrants and returnees compare? • How do we build sustainable partnerships between the private sector, government and international organizations for the socio-economic (re)integration of migrants? In what concrete ways are local governments promoting alliances with the private sector? • To what extent are these experiences of private sector engagement for the socio-economic (re)integration of migrants applicable to other country contexts? • How do we ensure that the needs of both migrants and host communities are met in an equitable and sustainable manner?
5 min	Closing remarks