



SKILLS FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT

Side-Event at the International Migration Review Forum 18 MAY, 1.00 – 2.00 PM EDT, Online

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 17-20 May 2022, with a preparatory stakeholder hearing taking place on 16 May.

A series of IMRF 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. Side-events will take place on 16-20 May 2022.

Event Description

Many countries at various income levels around the world are suffering from a shortage of skilled personnel within key industries—healthcare; agriculture; information and communications technology (ICT) and electronics; apparel; tourism and hospitality—inhibiting the productivity and growth of their employers and economies. To meet these shortages, countries will need to experiment with different policy responses, from improving wages and working conditions, mobilizing the un- and under-employed, automating processes, and embracing offshoring and outsourcing. Yet it is increasingly acknowledged that these policy responses may not be able to meet the scale of the demand.

Legal immigration is one way in which to meet skilled labour needs, while also providing opportunities for a growing youth population and contributing to economic development in countries and communities of origin. But large questions remain. What precise skills are needed? Do people from countries of origin have these skills, or do they need to be trained? What should the proportional role of immigration be in meeting these shortages? And how should this immigration be facilitated in a rights-respecting way?

This event will aim to answer these questions as policymakers gather for the International Migration Review Forum and in light of recent findings highlighted in the forthcoming research report on 'Strengthening Immigration Systems for the Future of Work and the Labour Market Needs of Tomorrow' from CGD and IOM.

Objectives

The event will provide space for government, private sector and other stakeholders to discuss cooperation on labour market data and information as a basis for more effective and responsive labour migration systems.

The event will in a first part look at public-private partnerships and new technologies applied to capture labour market demand and skills shortages. Followed by a second part that explores the potential and role of migrant workers and migration in meeting demand and shortages, and beyond, contributing to origin and destination countries greater socio-economic development and good.

The discussion will take stock on progress made under GCM Objective 1, 5 and 18 and reinforce partnerships that cut across public and private stakeholders and labour market, development, education and migration policies. Specifically, the event will:

- Discuss challenges and opportunities in strengthening the link between labour markets and labour immigration policies and systems;
- Showcase public-private partnerships that successfully contribute to more timely, accurate and robust labour market information and/or effectively employ migrant workers to fill labour and skills shortages;
- Explore measures to equip labour immigration systems for a changing world of work and to better serve labour markets, employers, local communities and migrants themselves.

Format

The event will be held in English. To join the event, please register in advance [here](#).

Agenda

18 May 2022 Time: 1.00 – 2.00 PM (New York) / 7.00 – 8.00 PM (Geneva) Online	
5 minutes	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monica Goracci, Director, Department of Programme Support and Migration Management, IOM
5 minutes	Setting the Scene: Gearing immigration systems to serve labour markets, employers and migrants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helen Dempster, Policy Fellow and Assistant Director, CGD
35 minutes	Panel discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephan Heuke, Managing Director & Deputy Head of International Services, Federal Employment Agency of Germany • Ambassador Mohamed Khairat, Assistant Minister of Emigration and Expatriates Affairs of Egypt • Matt Sigelman, President, Emsi Burning Glass Moderator: Marina Manke , Head Labour Mobility and Social Inclusion Division, IOM
10 minutes	Discussion / Q&A
5 minutes	Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Clemens, Director of Migration, Displacement, and Humanitarian Policy and Senior Fellow, CGD