

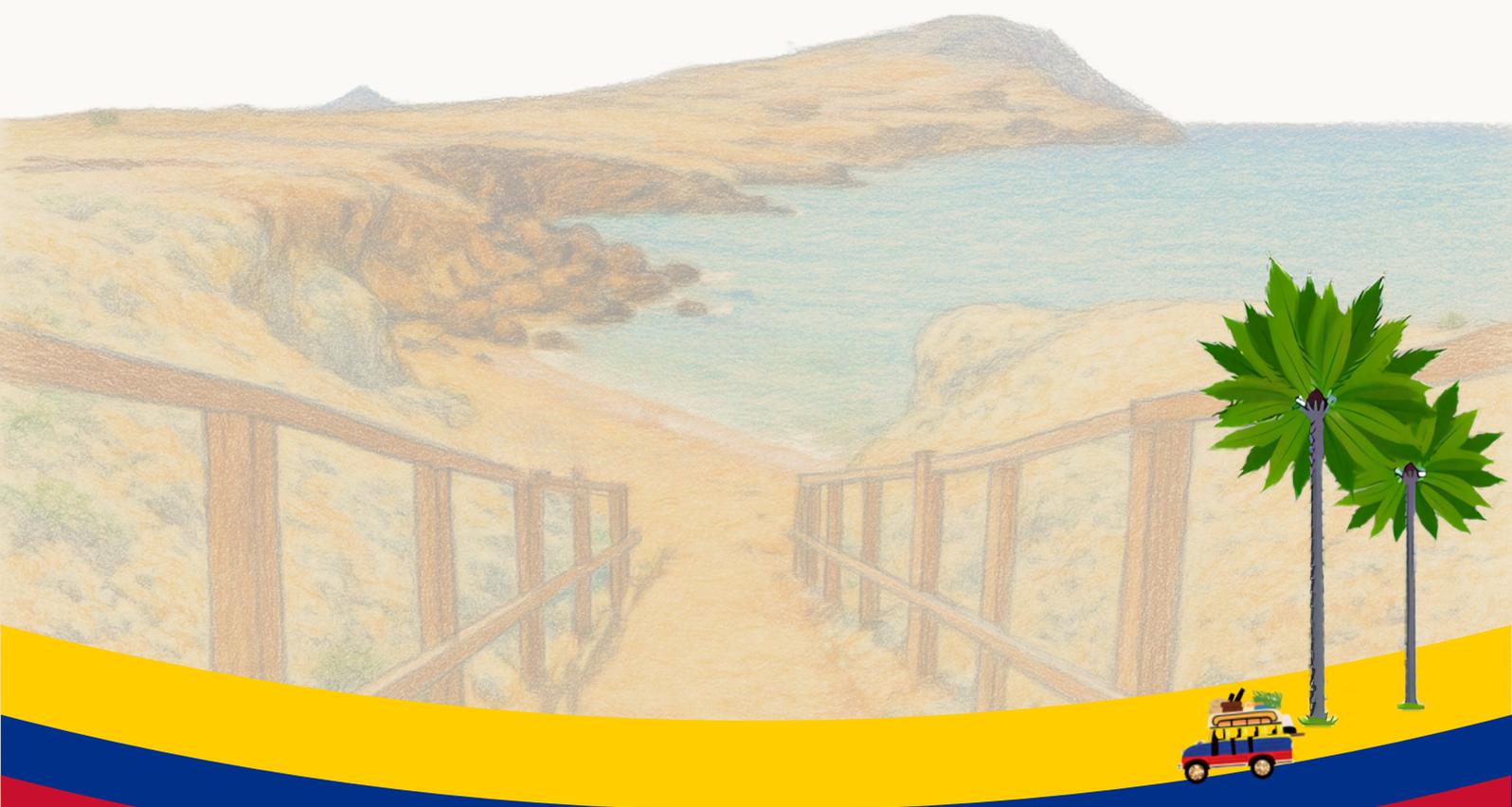


Global Forum on MIGRATION & DEVELOPMENT



Colombia 2024-2025

Civil Society



What is the **Global Forum on Migration and Development?**

The **Global Forum on Migration and Development** (GFMD) is a state-led, informal, voluntary, and non-binding process that brings together expertise from all regions and countries at all stages of economic, social, and political development.

Objectives of the GFMD

-  Provide policymakers and practitioners a platform to discuss policies, challenges and opportunities
-  Exchange good practices and experiences
-  Establish partnerships and cooperation
-  Structure the international priorities and agenda

How was the **GFMD** created?

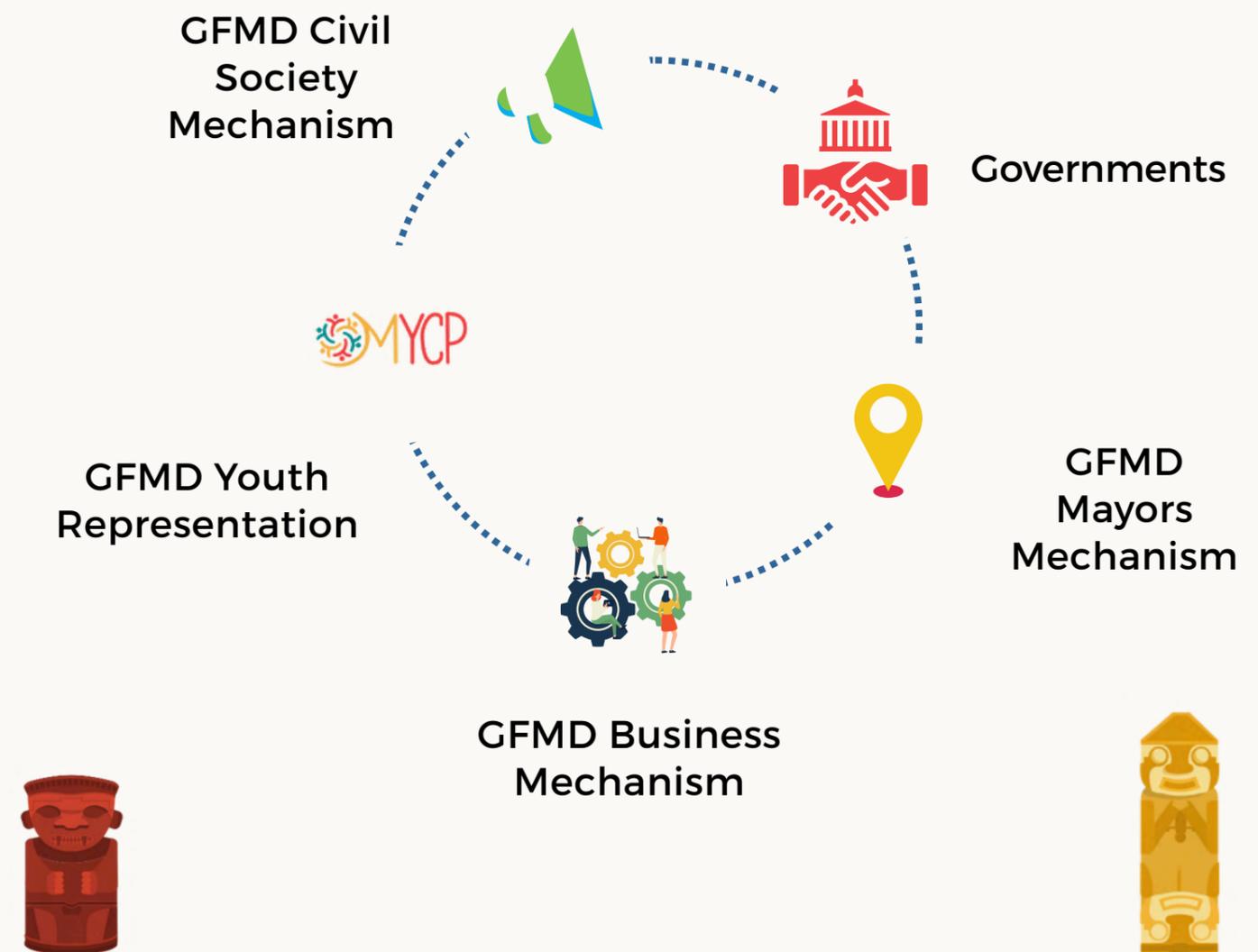
The GFMD was **established** during the first UN General Assembly High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD) in 2006. It functions **outside** the UN system and comprises a series of meetings and activities. It focuses on informal, non-binding, yet action-oriented dialogue.

The GFMD is Chaired by **states**, with **Colombia** currently **holding the Chairship** of the 15th GFMD process until August 2025.

Non-state mechanisms engagement

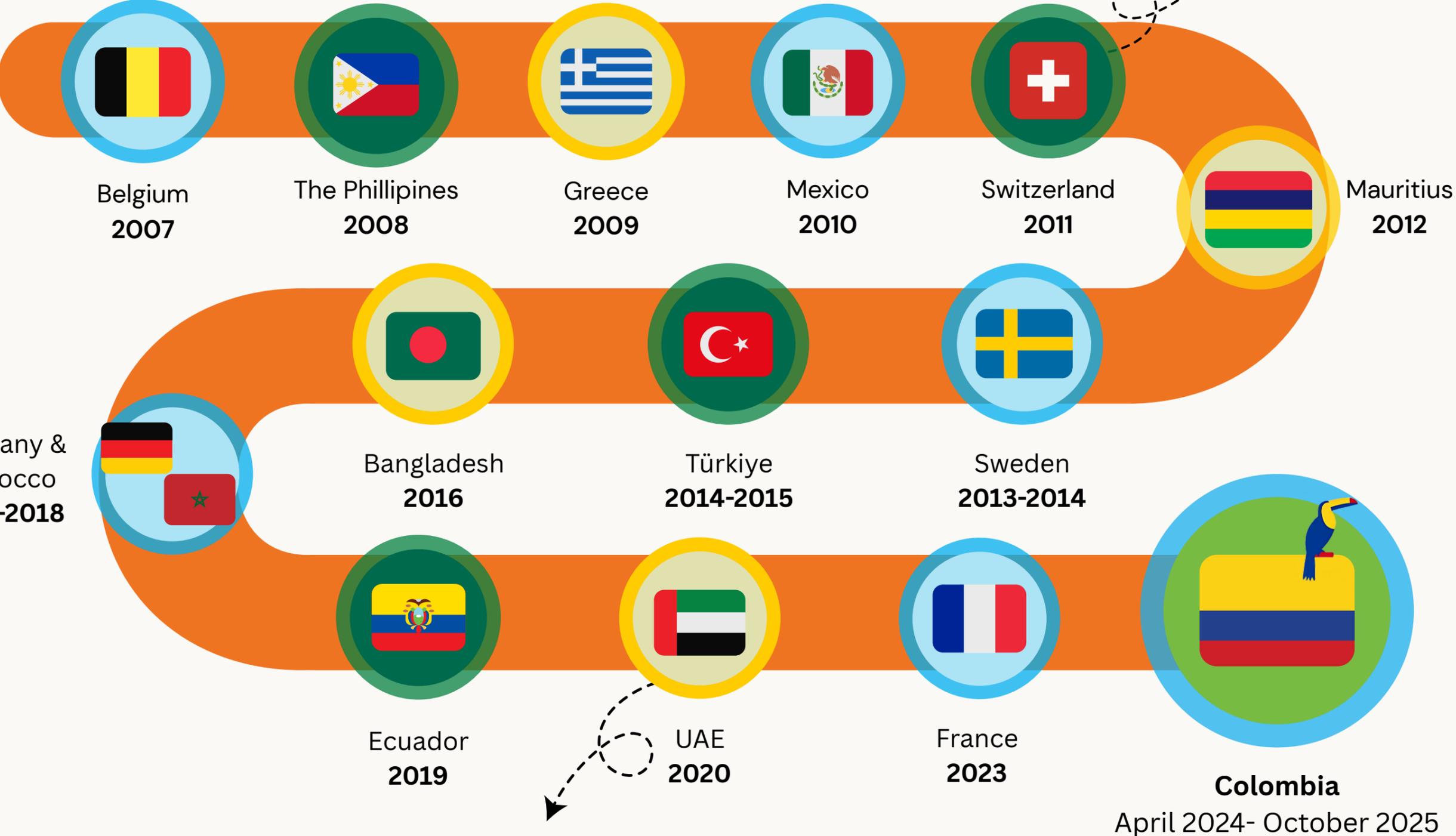


Alongside the governments participating in the GFMD, there are three non-state stakeholder mechanisms: the **Business Mechanism**, the **Civil Society Mechanism**, and the **Mayors Mechanism**. In addition, youth representation is added as transversal component of youth engagement (coordinated by the **Migration Youth and Children Platform – MYCP**) across all stakeholder groups and governments.

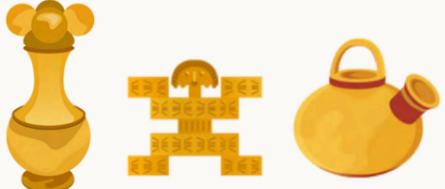


GFMD Chairmanships at a Glance

Creation of the Civil Society coordinating office



Full stakeholder participation in entire GFMD process approved by the Steering Group of States



Civil Society engagement in the GFMD

Civil society has been engaged in the GFMD since its inception, actively participating through Civil Society Days (CSD) preceding the Summit, where recommendations and action plans were discussed and represented through a Rapporteur at the opening ceremony of each GFMD. Over the years, civil society has **expanded its role, responsibility, ownership, and leadership** within the GFMD process, advocating for full participation. Since 2020, civil society and other stakeholder mechanisms have been fully integrated into the entire GFMD Summit and process, participating alongside governments and other stakeholders in all preparatory meetings, thematic workshops, roundtables, and other GFMD events.

The **Civil Society Mechanism (CSM)** serves as the **institutionalised structure coordinating all civil society engagement in the GFMD**. It is guided by an **International Steering Committee (ISC)** of global civil society organisations and networks, and coordinated by a secretariat, which is hosted by the **International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)**.

The CSM facilitates civil society engagement by (co)organising preparatory meetings, regional and thematic consultations, briefings, webinars, and various other activities for civil society globally to inform each GFMD activity. Furthermore, the CSM coordinates civil society participation in every GFMD activity by drawing on key leaders and representatives nominated from various civil society processes and activities contributing to GFMD.



[FAQ](#)



The 15th GFMD Process

The 2025 GFMD's overarching theme is *“Regular Migration, Labour Mobility and Human Rights: Pillars of Development and Well-Being of Societies”*.

The 2025 GFMD has six thematic priorities:

1. **Strength in Movement: The Impact of Women on Global Migration and Development**
2. **Children and Youth on the Move: Innovators for Tomorrow's Development**
3. **The Interplay of Media and Culture to Construct and Deconstruct the Reality of Migration**
4. **Climate Change: Safe Labour Routes as a Bridge to Prosperity**
5. **Regional Cooperation and Integration to Promote Safe and Regular Migration for Development**
6. **New Technologies and Digitalization: Improving Migration Management and Regular Migration Pathways**

2025 GFMD Provisional Calendar of Activities



1 April 2024	Beginning of the 2024-2025 Colombian Chairship	
May - July 2024	Programme Consultations with all stakeholders	GENEVA <i>In person</i>
3 September 2024	Official launch of the GFMD 2024-2025 Programme	GENEVA <i>In person</i>
3-30 September 2024	Open Call for Roundtable Co-Chairs	EMAIL: gfmd@iom.int
6 November 2024	1 st Preparatory Meetings	GENEVA <i>Hybrid</i>
6-7 November 2024	1 st Roundtable Consultations	GENEVA <i>In person</i>
19 February 2025	2 nd Preparatory Meetings	GENEVA <i>Hybrid</i>
19-20 February 2025	2 nd Roundtable Consultations	GENEVA <i>In person</i>
1 st week of September 2025	15 th GFMD Summit	RIOHACHA, COLOMBIA
31 October 2025	Official end of the 2024-2025 Colombian Chairship	



For more detailed information on the GFMD, please visit the [GFMD website](#)

How can **Civil Society attend and participate** in GFMD activities?

Participation in the GFMD Civil Society Preparatory Meetings is open to all sectors of civil society, including charities, development NGOs, community groups, women's groups, faith-based organisations, professional associations, trade unions, social movements, coalitions, and advocacy groups—committed to advancing migration and development agendas and upholding the rights and dignity of all migrants through a human rights-based approach perspective.

It is very important to note that **the GFMD is not only the Summit** but a yearlong **process** with multiple events and activities.

For the 2025 GFMD process, similar to previous years, the CSM has developed its own civil society process to contribute to the GFMD throughout the year. This involves a wide array of self-organised civil society preparatory events and activities under the title "Sociedad Civil en Rumbo a Colombia" (Civil Society on the Road to Colombia).



Steps of the Sociedad Civil en Rumbo a Colombia:



2025

FEB 19-20

2nd GFMD
Preparatory
Meeting

MAY 26-27

4th Civil Society
Thematic Dialogues

SEPT 1-4

GFMD Civil Society
Delegates in
Riohacha

JAN 29-30

2nd Civil Society
Thematic Dialogues

APR 7-8

3rd Civil Society
Thematic Dialogues

TBD

Colombian Civil
Society Day

Preparatory Day: 1
GFMD Summit: 2-4

Eligibility Criteria for the 15th GFMD Summit

To be eligible to be considered for selection as a civil society delegate for the 15th GFMD Summit, representatives from civil society organisations **must have demonstrated active participation in the civil society process**—either by attending previous Thematic Dialogues or registering for and attending the 4th Thematic Dialogue.



**Expressions of Interest:
Closes – May 28th**



If you have submitted an expression of interest by the 8th April 2025, your application is currently under review, so please **DO NOT** make a new submission.

N.B. The GFMD Civil Society Mechanism **will send the Expressions of Interest form ONLY to those who have been active in the civil society process to ensure that the key criteria is respected.**

Please note that **submitting an expression of interest does NOT guarantee selection for the Summit.**

Information subject to change.
For the most up-to-date details,
please refer to our →

[FAQ](#)



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