



## **Friends of the Forum - GFMD Civil Society Mechanism** **Civil society's common elements of a successful policy/practice**

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We, Civil Society, want to express our gratitude to the Colombian Chair and the Co-Chairs of the six round tables for putting on the agenda of this Friends of the Forum meeting - thus clearly prioritizing it – “the sharing of promising practices among GFMD Member States and stakeholders”.

As an informal and State-led platform, the GFMD discovered almost from the start that promoting and replicating good practices could create a virtuous cycle among Member States and, to some extent, help change the migration narrative with a clear focus on opportunities rather than always insisting on difficulties and what is not possible. Then, discussing promising practices and documenting them really became part of the GFMD's DNA.

Whilst these can and have indeed served as inspiration, unfortunately, there have been ups and downs, and collecting promising policies and practices has sometimes lacked a proper methodology and, above all, what we would call quality control.

Civil society represents or is in daily contact with communities on the ground and most report uneven accuracy in perceived 'success', highlighting the need to further reflect on the criteria for defining success.

What is evident is that all policies and practices have to be comprehensively and inclusively localised in order to be successfully replicated. Therefore, it's essential to look at the elements that make a policy or a practice good, and to ensure that impact is only measured through including evaluation by migrant and diaspora communities themselves.

To be fully prepared today, we organized four preparatory meetings on 29 and 30 January, gathering more than 400 people from NGOs, networks, trade unions, and migrant organizations. Drawing from innumerable grassroots and affected community experiences

and work for migrant rights and protection, global civil society has gathered common elements for ensuring a policy or practice is successful. They include, inter alia:

1. Clear scope, and defined parameters and objectives
2. Driven by true political will and sincerity of purpose.
3. Firmly and concretely grounded in human rights and international law and standards.
4. Designed, implemented and monitored with inclusive, meaningful, and representative participation of affected communities and relevant actors.
5. Replicable through inherent flexibility to localized adaptation.
6. Transparent and accountable through data collection, monitoring, and evaluation mechanisms, including community-based and protected reporting mechanisms.

We believe that discussing and agreeing on clear transferable criteria would make the GFMD's contribution more relevant, and more focused, and give more weight to each of the practices presented.

Thank you!