



**2019 Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)  
Quito, Ecuador  
21 - 24 January 2020**

**Civil Society Day (CSD) Programme Concept Note**

**“Civil society in an era of transforming global migration governance:  
*Strengthening implementation and enriching partnerships for migrants and  
communities.*”**

*Civil Society Day Co-Chairs 2019:*

José Dolores Suazo Mejía

COFAMICENH Stella Opoku-Owusu, AFFORD UK

**Introduction and context**

As new processes are established to tackle the challenges presented by migration in this current global context, this year’s GFMD is a crucial moment for civil society to review our collective experience so far, including a consideration of our role as critical stakeholders in these important global processes, and how these developments relate directly to our work. How can we capitalise on our experience and where are the gaps we need to collectively address? And how can we effectively bring this expertise and the lessons learned to governments and other stakeholders to maximise our collective impact on the ground and around the world?

This year’s GFMD Civil Society Day (CSD) theme: “Civil society transforming global migration governance: Strengthening means of implementation and enriching partnerships for migrants and communities” will allow us to take stock of initiatives being implemented around the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) as well as across the spectrum of migration and development. Focus session will provide opportunities to acknowledge successes; identify and learn from the challenges; and channel our knowledge into new or stronger partnerships and advocacy.

**Structure of the GFMD Summit and the civil society agenda**

The CSD will take place on the second day of the GFMD Summit this year, in parallel to the three other official GFMD stakeholder mechanisms (governments, business and mayors). The rest of the GFMD Summit (opening and closing plenaries, “common space”, and GCM-related dialogue) is open to all participants, making this year’s GFMD Summit a truly multi-

stakeholder process, and providing many opportunities for strategizing, networking, advocacy and partnership-building. While this does mean our time for internal civil society reflection, dialogue and strategizing is more limited than in previous years, it also opens up the entire GFMD Summit for the first time to all civil society participants.

\*tentative schedule - subject to change

Time	Tues. 21 January	Wed. 22 January	Thurs. 23 January	Fri. 24 January
08h30 - 10h00	Free time / side events	Civil Society Day <i>(other mechanisms meeting simultaneously)</i>	Common Space	GCM – related sessions <i>(voluntary)</i>
10h00 - 11h00				Free time / side events
11h00 - 12h00				
12h00 - 13h00				
13h00 - 14h00	Registration			
14h00 - 15h00	Opening plenary GFMD		Closing plenary GFMD	
15h00 - 16h00				
16h00 - 17h00	Welcome reception		Closing dinner	
17h00 - 18h00				
18h00 - 19h00	Free evening	Cultural evening <i>(optional)</i>		
19h00 - 20h00				

## Civil society participation

Around 200 civil society delegates will be selected to participate in this year's GFMD Summit in Quito, Ecuador. As has been the practice for many years, an additional 20 seats will be reserved for delegates of local civil society organizations from Ecuador. In addition to participating in the CSD, civil society delegates will be able to take part in a range of multi-stakeholder events, including the Opening and Closing plenaries, the Common Space agenda that will take place on the 21 January, and the GCM-related events scheduled for the morning of 24 January.

The civil society participation, as in previous years, will reflect as diverse a representation as possible, both in terms of regional participation and thematic distribution – with delegates from migrant and diaspora communities, human rights and development NGOs, labour unions, and academia. We will strive for and expect gender balance, as well as significant youth leadership and representation from the Youth Forum. Considerable weight will be given to the experience and process of networks, who will not only choose their own representatives but also be expected to report on their related processes from the year. In order to ensure as engaging and constructive a process as possible, *all* participants will be expected to prepare sufficiently in order to contribute concretely to the GFMD Summit in Quito, as well as take away some concrete deliverables that can impact their communities and constituency.

The significance of the GFMD being hosted, this year, by Ecuador is an important consideration that will be reflected in the agenda, with not only local but also regional dynamics being incorporated through inclusive consultative processes both locally and regionally.

## Proposed draft agenda: Civil Society Day (Wednesday, 22 January)

With the opening of the entire GFMD Summit to all participants, the civil society-only component of the Summit has been reduced to one day. Bearing in mind the somewhat limited timeframe for dedicated civil society reflection, dialogue and strategizing, the day will be focused on developing constructive and concrete outputs; notably identifying key elements of effective partnerships related to the five themes mentioned below, and developing advocacy messages for engagement with a range of stakeholders in order to enhance existing partnerships and develop new initiatives.

Proposed agenda:

<b>Civil Society Day: Tuesday, 22 January 2020</b>											
7:30 – 8:30	Welcome coffee										
8:30 – 10:00	Introduction and Opening plenary										
10:00 – 12:30	Morning break-out sessions: <table border="1" data-bbox="416 893 1377 1093"> <thead> <tr> <th>Access to services</th> <th>Mixed migration</th> <th>Labour migration</th> <th>Climate-related displacement and migration</th> <th>Criminalisation of migrants and those assisting them</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a) Learning from and enriching partnerships</td> <td>a) Learning from and enriching partnerships</td> <td>a) Learning from and enriching partnerships</td> <td>a) Learning from and enriching partnerships</td> <td>a) Learning from and enriching partnerships</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Access to services	Mixed migration	Labour migration	Climate-related displacement and migration	Criminalisation of migrants and those assisting them	a) Learning from and enriching partnerships	a) Learning from and enriching partnerships	a) Learning from and enriching partnerships	a) Learning from and enriching partnerships	a) Learning from and enriching partnerships
Access to services	Mixed migration	Labour migration	Climate-related displacement and migration	Criminalisation of migrants and those assisting them							
a) Learning from and enriching partnerships	a) Learning from and enriching partnerships	a) Learning from and enriching partnerships	a) Learning from and enriching partnerships	a) Learning from and enriching partnerships							
12:30 – 14:30	Lunch  <i>*space for side events</i>										
14:30 – 17:00	Afternoon break-out sessions: <table border="1" data-bbox="416 1391 1377 1579"> <thead> <tr> <th>Access to services</th> <th>Mixed migration</th> <th>Labour migration</th> <th>Climate-related displacement and migration</th> <th>Criminalisation of migrants and those assisting them</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>b) Advocating through partnership</td> <td>b) Advocating through partnership</td> <td>b) Advocating through partnership</td> <td>b) Advocating through partnership</td> <td>b) Advocating through partnership</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Access to services	Mixed migration	Labour migration	Climate-related displacement and migration	Criminalisation of migrants and those assisting them	b) Advocating through partnership	b) Advocating through partnership	b) Advocating through partnership	b) Advocating through partnership	b) Advocating through partnership
Access to services	Mixed migration	Labour migration	Climate-related displacement and migration	Criminalisation of migrants and those assisting them							
b) Advocating through partnership	b) Advocating through partnership	b) Advocating through partnership	b) Advocating through partnership	b) Advocating through partnership							
17:00 – 18:00	Closing plenary										

## **Proposed methodology:**

The Civil Society Day will start off with a shorter opening plenary, consisting of summary reports from the various related processes throughout the year, a brief introduction to the day and some logistical matters, before breaking out directly into the smaller discussion groups.

The break-out agenda of this year's CSD will focus around 5 different themes:

- Access to services for all migrants regardless of status
- Mixed migration
- Labour migration: Decent work and combatting workplace exploitation, particularly relating to women workers
- Climate related migration & displacement
- Criminalization of migrants and those assisting them

These themes were identified following input received from the International Steering Committee on the need to ensure a continuity from the outcomes of last year's CSD – and are thus drawn from the “10 commitments” presented at the closing ceremony,<sup>1</sup> as well as important themes that many felt were inadequately addressed in the GCM.

Delegates will be asked to pre-identify two out of the five sub-themes they feel they can best contribute to: one break-out session in the morning and second break-out session in the afternoon. Each session will be divided in two parts (approximately an hour each), to examine the theme from the perspective of *partnerships* as well as *advocacy*.

### ***Learning from and enriching partnerships:***

This session is focused on evidence-building. Participants will be asked to prepare at least one example of a partnership that they have worked on, or participated in, that speaks to their respective themes – highlighting both good practices and challenges alike. The sessions will be facilitated in a way that will enable the moderator to draw out important lessons learned in relation to operational realities, data collection, implementation of the Global Compact for Migration, the Sustainable Development Goals and the humanitarian-development nexus more broadly.

### ***Advocating through partnership:***

In transitioning from the discussion on partnerships, the moderator will take the lessons learned above and encourage participants to develop joint advocacy messages based on the collective experience. At least one of these should directly address the particular vantage of migrant women and girls. In addition to agreeing on key advocacy messages that are associated with partnerships discussed above, participants will also be invited to discuss more general advocacy imperatives associated with the particular theme. This is also an opportunity to discuss joint strategies and develop joint messaging on issues that are often deemed unpopular or too sensitive. In this way, we will be prepared to highlight the expertise of civil society in relation to the implementation of the GCM as well as the SDG and other important global processes, enhancing the credibility of its advocacy in a multi-stakeholder context.

---

<sup>1</sup> Available at <http://madenetwork.org/sites/default/files/GFMD%20CSD%202018%20Final%20report.pdf>.

As interpretation will not be available for the breakout sessions, tables will be divided based on language (English, French, Spanish), which should result in break-out groups of 10-20 participants each. Each table will be led by a pre-identified moderator who will be responsible for planning their session in collaboration with the ISC, and will facilitate the discussions with close reference to the guiding questions that will be common to all themes (to ensure clear takeaway points in conclusion). Each session will also have a dedicated rapporteur who will record both a summary as well as key outcomes for the CSD Chair to report. The sessions will address some key cross-cutting elements, and participants will be expected to prepare for their selected themes in advance of the GFMD Summit.

In particular, each theme will be required to consider specific cross-cutting elements pertaining to:

- Championing child rights
- Youth engagement and perspectives
- Guaranteeing a gender-sensitive approach
- Navigating negative narratives
- The inclusion and leadership of migrant and diaspora communities

Each of these cross-cutting elements will be represented by a specific rapporteur who will lift up the particular ways that each of these specific demographics are impacted by current policies as well as positive examples and/or recommendations for more nuanced advocacy. They will ideally work with a team to ensure that each thematic discussion is sufficiently mindful of each of these elements. A final report will capture the collated feedback of each rapporteur.

A closing session will see the CSD Chair present some final concluding remarks based on the inputs received from the rapporteurs throughout the day - including key points for interaction with other stakeholders for the remaining days of the summit.