



GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT (GFMD) QUITO, ECUADOR

CIVIL SOCIETY DAY, 22 JANUARY 2020

[Background note](#)

[Theme 2](#)

[Mixed migration](#)

Introduction:

Migration continues to dominate headlines and political and policy agendas across the world. Globally, people are on the move for a variety of reasons, with motivations and movement becoming increasingly dynamic, mixed and complex. Mixed migration, in particular, poses challenges to policy makers and practitioners in responding to mixed flows of people – people holding different legal statuses, or with changing status, but travelling along the same routes; using the same smugglers and facing similar risks and challenges. How to differentiate between refugees, migrants and other people on the move? While their experiences on the move are similar in the immediate humanitarian response, distinctions may feel artificial to those on the ground. How to address the many different profiles, needs and vulnerabilities of a highly mobile and dynamic population in mixed migration contexts as opposed to more ‘traditional displacement settings’? How to navigate political sensitivities and the different mandates of agencies to respond to different populations, which may result in siloed approaches and mobilise the required funding and resources, given all these complexities?

The New York Declaration 2016 attempted to address large flows of refugees and migrants. Perhaps contrary to reality on the ground and calls for a comprehensive Global Compact on Human Mobility, it was decided – at the New York Summit in 2016 - to develop two Global Compacts in two separate, distinct and independent processes: A Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM). A much-needed focus on mixed migration can provide the bridge to explore complementarities of the two Global Compacts, in line with commitments made in the New York Declaration and address key issues around the protection of all people on the move regardless of migratory status.



Objectives/focus of the break-out session:

- Identifying lessons learned, good or promising practices, effective partnerships and elements of success in terms of addressing mixed migration as an operational reality
- Exploring opportunities for better understanding and collecting reliable data on mixed migration
- Developing civil society advocacy and key messaging on mixed migration in various institutional contexts, including the GFMD, the GCM, and the GCR
- Exploring possibilities of alliance building and partnership to address mixed migration in different contexts.

Objectives of the morning session

A discussion of mixed migration in different regional and national contexts – breakout groups will be asked to reflect on:

- Who are the groups of people on the move we are talking about, and what are the specific protection challenges they face?
- How have these challenges been met and/or neglected so far by relevant duty bearers?
- How much/what type of systematic documentation exists to give evidence of these situations?
- What has been the response to different groups of people considering gender, age and other diversity considerations?
- What are the relevant policy frameworks for engaging with this phenomenon at national, regional, and global levels (e.g. national laws, policies and initiatives; regional multilateral agreements and institutions; the GFMD, GCM and UNNM, GCR, GRF, SDGs and regional initiatives such as Support Platforms)?

In order to assess the potential for positive change, we will ask participants to channel their replies in view of:

- Examples of existing **partnerships** to address the issue
- Examples of **challenges** related to partnership approaches
- Examples of existing efforts to collect related **data**

Objectives of the afternoon session

Building on the contributions from the morning session and on feedback from the Governments session on pathways at the GFMD, participants will collaborate to develop **targeted advocacy messages** that are relevant for (a) their own regional contexts, and (b) will feed into the remainder of the GFMD week, specifically:



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- The Common Space:
 - Topic 1: Reducing vulnerabilities
 - Topic 4: Promoting migrants' inclusion in host communities
 - The Voluntary Dialogue on GCM implementation, including on GCM Objectives 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 11, 12, 21, and 22

These messages will speak to lessons learned so far from partnerships/challenges coming out of the morning session, and will aim to propose specific policy changes, as well as potential partnership arrangements to be considered and/or enhanced/scaled up for implementation in the specific contexts.