

Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Regional workshop

Harnessing migration for rural transformation and development

14 -15 August 2019
Rocksteady III, AC Hotel, 38-42 Lady Musgrave Rd
Kingston, Jamaica

Background

Ecuador's GFMD 2019 Chairmanship seeks to strengthen the dialogue among GFMD stakeholders at regional level. This workshop will be the second of a series of regional events, which will directly contribute to the thematic priorities of the Quito Summit and the development of supporting documents, but also function as standalone events that bring forward the global debate on migration and development, and targeting different stakeholders – local and central governments, academia, civil society and regional stakeholders.

This second workshop will focus on the topic of harnessing migration for rural development, representing one of Ecuador's thematic priorities in its 2019 GFMD Chairmanship. Development strategies in many countries have tended to focus on preventing rural flight and stemming migration into overcrowded cities. Yet, as existing drivers – such as poverty, conflict, land degradation, food insecurity and discrimination – can be exacerbated by a changing climate and threatening to further undermine livelihoods that heavily depend on natural resources vulnerable to droughts, floods and other environmental impacts, governments may increasingly need to consider human mobility as part of rural resilience building strategies. This workshop will discuss the role of migration and remittances in the transformation of rural areas, including the impact on agriculture and related industries, as well as local employment opportunities and entrepreneurship. In addition, it will explore options for policy makers at national and local levels to enhance positive and mitigate negative effects.

Objective

To discuss what policy choices governments have to enhance the positive and mitigate the negative effects of migration and remittances for resilience-building and transformation of rural areas, with a view to contributing to the Roundtable 3.2. "Harnessing migration for rural transformation and development" of the GFMD 2019 agenda.

Guiding questions (as per the Concept Note GFMD 2019)

- What drives migration out of rural areas? Who leaves? What role do gender and age play in rural emigration? How might the transformation of rural areas in the context of climate change and associated changes in agricultural production affect migration?
- What lessons have governments and partners learned in trying to address “rural flight”? Is migration more of a challenge or an opportunity for rural development and resilience-building? What kinds of policy interventions can enhance the positive effects and mitigate the negative effects of migration from rural areas? What is the role of cooperation between national and local governments and among local governments in rural and urban areas?
- What role do remittances and migrant investments play in rural areas and how can they be leveraged to support rural development and resilience building? What bottlenecks exist in this regard and who needs to come together to address those? Beyond remittances, what is the role of the relationship between those who leave and those who stay?

Expected outcomes

- Experiences, policies and practices on how to enhance the positive and mitigate the negative effects of migration and (gender differentiated) remittances for resilience-building and transformation in rural areas across the region are identified and shared by the participating countries;
- Analysis of the current situation with the identification of practical, innovative and emerging practices and solutions in relation to the topic;
- Outcomes and the findings of this event will feed into the Background Paper of the Roundtable 3.2 of the GFMD 2019 Summit.

Participants' profile

- Practitioners (public servants) from LAC countries and other regions dealing with migration, remittances and rural development;
- Civil society organisations, academia, international organisations.

Methodology

The workshop will include traditional panel discussions and presentations to share good practices and examples. Group work is another core element of the workshop organised to create collective knowledge and to facilitate interaction and experience sharing.

Agenda

Day 1 – Wednesday 14 August 2019

- 08:30 - 09:00 Registration of participants
- 09:00 - 09:30 **Opening session**
- *Ms. Marcia Gilbert-Roberts*, Permanent Secretary, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica
 - *Ambassador Santiago Chávez Pareja*, Vice Minister, Ministry of External Relations and Human Mobility of Ecuador and Chair of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (via video message)
 - *Mr. Sagoh Djete*, Attaché, Delegation of the European Union to Jamaica, Belize, Turks and Caicos Islands, Bahamas and the Cayman Islands
 - *Mr. Oleg Chirita*, Head of Programme, Global Initiatives, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
- 09:30 - 10:00 **Introduction by Co-Chairs to the GFMD Roundtable 3.2**
- *Mr. Easton Williams*, Senior Director of Social Policy, Planning and Research, Planning Institute of Jamaica
 - *Ms. Dira T. Fabrian*, Second Secretary, Political Affairs, Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations in Geneva
- 10:00 - 10:45 Pause and group picture
- 10:45 - 12:00 **Session 1 – Rural migration and development: Setting the scene**
- Moderator: *Mr. Oleg Chirita*, Head of Programme, Global Initiatives, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
- Keynotes:
- *Mr. Manuel Orozco*, Director, Migration, Remittances and Development Programme, Inter-American Dialogue
 - *Mr. David Khoudour*, Advisor for Migration and Development, United Nations Development Programme, Colombia
- 12:00 - 13:30 Lunch

13:30 - 15:00

Session 2 – Rural migration trends in Latin America and the Caribbean

Moderator: Mr. *Cristián Doña-Reveco*, Associate Professor of Sociology, Director, Office of Latino/Latin American Studies (OLLAS), University of Nebraska at Omaha

Panellists:

- Ms. *Florinda Rojas Rodriguez*, Executive Director, National Migration Institute of the Dominican Republic
- Ms. *Giulia Manccini Pinheiro*, Focal Point for Central and South America, United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth
- Ms. *Paulina Contreras Hurtado*, Migration Officer at the Department of Rural Development, Office of Agrarian Studies and Policies (ODEPA), Ministry of Agriculture of Chile

15:00 - 15:30

Pause

15:30 - 17:00

Session 3 – Harnessing migration for rural transformation and development – Practical Examples

Moderator: Mr. *Jeffrey Cohen*, Professor of Anthropology, Ohio State University

Panellists:

- Ms. *Stacey Clarke Callum*, Programme Director, Civil Registration and Migration Social Policy, Planning and Research Division, Planning Institute of Jamaica
- Ms. *Daniela Celleri Endara*, Associate Professor, National Institute of Advanced Studies of Ecuador
- Ms. *Annett Fleischer*, Advisor at German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), Saint Lucia Office
- Mr. *Luis Arturo Cortés Rosas*, Deputy Director of Investigation, Centre for Migration Studies, Secretariat of the Interior of Mexico
- Ms. *Angela Librado-Trinidad*, Labour Attaché, Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO), Embassy of the Philippines in Washington, D.C.



Day 2 – Thursday 15 August 2019

09:00 - 09:30	Summary Day 1			
09:30 - 11:00	Session 5 – Public policies to mitigate the negative effects of rural migration – Group Work			
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11:00 - 11:30	Pause			
11:30 - 12:15	Presentation of the reports of the sessions 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3			
12:15 - 13:45	Lunch			
13:45 - 15:15	Session 6 – Public policies to increase the positive effects of rural migration – Group Work			
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15:15 - 15:45	Pause			
15:45 - 16:30	Presentation of the reports of the sessions 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3			
16:30 - 16:45	Session 7 – Proposal for the GFMD Summit (by Co-Chairs of Roundtable 3.2.)			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Easton Williams</i>, Senior Director of Social Policy, Planning and Research, Planning Institute of Jamaica • <i>Ms. Dira T. Fabrian</i>, Second Secretary, Political Affairs, Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations in Geneva 			
16:45 - 17:00	Conclusions and next steps			