



FINAL REPORT OF THE  
GLOBAL MIGRATION GROUP  
Summary of main achievements  
2006–2018

Publisher: Global Migration Group (GMG)  
Website: [www.globalmigrationgroup.org](http://www.globalmigrationgroup.org)

---

© 2018 Global Migration Group (GMG)

---

The annexes in this report have been issued without formal editing by the GMG 2018 co-Chairs, FAO and IOM.

# Table of Contents

Foreword ..... 1

Origins of the Global Migration Group ..... 2

Main activities of the Global Migration Group ..... 3

Activities of the Working Groups and Task Forces ..... 5

Conclusion of Global Migration Group activities and transition  
to the United Nations Network on Migration ..... 8

Annex ..... 9



## Foreword

As the work of the Global Migration Group (GMG) draws to a close, we – the co-Chairs of the Group in 2018 – are pleased to present a final report, summarizing the main achievements of the Group since it was established in its Global form in 2006.

We would like to express our appreciation to all the entities that have served as Chairs of the Group throughout its existence, and acknowledge the work of all members of the GMG at both the Principal and working levels. Without their dedication and commitment, the achievements summarized in this report would not have been possible. We would also like to thank the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation for providing financial support to the work of the Chairs over recent years. Furthermore, we would like to acknowledge the visionary leadership of the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr António Guterres.

Multilateral work on migration has changed dramatically since the Geneva Migration Group transformed itself into the Global Migration Group at the time of the first High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development in 2006, and the GMG has contributed significantly to changing both the discourse and work of stakeholders on migration. The United Nations Secretary-General decided, at the Executive Committee meeting of 23 May 2018, to establish the United Nations Network on Migration as a successor to the GMG, to ensure effective, coordinated system-wide support on the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration – marking a new era in international cooperation on migration.

We are proud of the GMG's achievements as documented in this report, and look forward – as the GMG chapter closes and that of the Network opens – to continuing and advancing United Nations system-wide cooperation on international migration issues under its aegis.



José Graziano da Silva  
Director-General  
Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations



António Vitorino  
Director General  
International Organization  
for Migration

## Origins of the Global Migration Group<sup>1</sup>

Migration is an engine of economic growth and innovation, and can greatly contribute to sustainable development. Throughout history, people have moved to safeguard their livelihoods and in pursuit of new opportunities. Despite the initial dearth of global policy discourse on migration prior to the International Conference on Population and Development in 1994, international migration has become one of the foremost issues on the global policy and United Nations agendas. The creation, evolution and repurposing of the Global Migration Group (GMG) – now succeeded by the United Nations Network on Migration – were all important steps in this process.

The precursor to the GMG was an inter-agency group with a more limited membership – the Geneva Migration Group – which was established in April 2003 and consisted of six entities, namely the International Labour Organization (ILO), IOM, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). In 2006, in response to a recommendation by the [Global Commission on International Migration](#) on the establishment of a high-level inter-institutional group of agencies involved in migration-related activities, the Secretary-General of the United Nations requested the Geneva Migration Group to include more agencies whose work was relevant to migration.

The Geneva Migration Group agreed to the addition of United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the World Bank, and decided to rename itself the Global Migration Group. The objectives of the Group were promoting the wider application of all relevant international and regional instruments and norms relating to migration, and encouraging the adoption of more coherent, comprehensive and better coordinated approaches on international migration. It also sought to improve the overall effectiveness of its members and other stakeholders in capitalizing upon the opportunities and responding to the challenges presented by international migration.

In November 2007, UNESCO, UNICEF, the United Nations Regional Commissions and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) joined the Group, followed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and UN-Women in 2010; the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations University (UNU) in 2014; the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) in 2016; and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in 2017, bringing the membership of the group at its last meeting to 22 United Nations entities.

.....  
 1 K. Newland. (2010). [The governance of international migration: Mechanisms, processes, and institutions](#). *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations*, 16(3), 331–343.

## Main activities of the Global Migration Group

One of the major achievements of the GMG has been the establishment of a platform for cooperation, coordination and collective action among United Nations entities with an interest in migration. This cooperation brought greater visibility for GMG member agencies on migration-related issues and has shone a spotlight on key issues, fora and initiatives relevant to migration. A detailed list of the strategic contributions made by the GMG is set out in the Annex, including important milestones such as:

- The first United Nations High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (2006)
- The establishment of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (2007)
- The second United Nations High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (2013)
- The inclusion of migrants and migration in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015)
- The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (2016)
- The adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (2018)

The delivery of joint GMG statements gave greater strength to the messages being communicated. By speaking with one voice at various international migration-related events, including the annual meetings of the Global Forum for Migration and Development, the GMG promoted the application of relevant global and regional norms and instruments relating to international migration.

The annual meetings of Principals have mainly served to adopt joint GMG positions and statements on important migration-related issues as well as to review and refine the workplans and operating modalities of the Group. On occasion, the Chair of the Group has published op-ed articles and issued press releases to disseminate information to the public at large. The GMG has raised the profile of international migration and provided a medium for a coherent inter-agency voice on migration.

The following Working Groups and Task Forces were established to advance discussions and work on relevant thematic issues, and to facilitate greater continuity in the work of the Group:

- [Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies](#)
- [Working Group on Data and Research](#)
- [Working Group on Migration, Human Rights and Gender](#)
- [Task Force on Capacity Development](#)
- [Task Force on Migration and Decent Work](#)

The Working Groups and Task Forces brought together member agencies willing to pool their expertise and resources to work together to deliver a set of joint outputs and results around a certain set of core themes, often in partnership with governments, civil society, and other stakeholders. The GMG has pursued more inclusive, regularized and strategic multi-stakeholder collaboration, drawing on the previous annual workplans and the Multi-Annual Work Plan 2016–2018.

The agencies that chaired the Group focused on a range of thematic areas, including migration and human rights; irregular migration; mainstreaming migration; trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling; migration and youth; migration and climate change; advancing strategic cooperation and inclusiveness on migration and development: Towards the UN Post-2015

Development Agenda; the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; migration and remittances; strengthening the GMG's gender-responsive engagement in migration and development; and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Further information on those themes is available on the GMG website. The Group called attention to various dimensions of migration both within and beyond the context of migration and development, acknowledging and supporting the mainstreaming of these areas of work into various multi-stakeholder processes, including – but not limited to – the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development; the Group of 20 (G-20); the Addis Ababa Action Agenda; the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants; and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. The GMG made several significant contributions to those processes through the provision of technical inputs, policy recommendations, and awareness-raising and advocacy efforts.

In the context of the support provided to the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), GMG members have individually and collectively made contributions, assisting in the organization of meetings and activities, providing technical assistance for the production of background papers and tools, participating in GFMD meetings and round tables, and taking forward any outcomes of such meetings.

The GMG provided support to the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration for the drafting of relevant documentation and the convening of meetings related to the New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants and the Global Compact. The Office has participated in the Principal and working level meetings of the GMG and has shared information and solicited the GMG's views about a range of global processes. The current co-Chairs of the Group were also involved in the preparatory consultations initiated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations which led to the creation of the United Nations Network on Migration.

The GMG dedicated [website](#), to which all member agencies have contributed, has been hosted and maintained by IOM, in coordination with the relevant Chair(s) of the Group. The website contains a repository of collaborative contributions of GMG members on migration and provides useful information and tools for governments and field offices. It also has a members-only, password-protected section for the sharing of internal information.

The success of the GMG is wholly attributable to the commitment of its respective Chairs and co-Chairs over the years; the collaborative spirit of its constituent members at both Principals and working level; the generosity of its donors, in particular the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, which has provided funding for the activities of the Chairs and co-Chairs in recent years; the demonstrable engagement of the Working Groups, Task Forces and partners; and the dedication of the colleagues that have worked in and with the GMG Support Team. IOM has provided administrative and technical support to the Chairs of the Group since its inception, including a full-time resource person from 2014 to 2018. UN DESA committed 20 per cent of a staff member's time to the GMG Support Team from 2014 to 2016 and UNU committed 40 per cent of a staff member's time in 2015. All of these contributions helped to drive the work of the GMG forward.

The annex lists the key GMG publications, events, statements and contributions over the years.

## Activities of the Working Groups and Task Forces

### Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies

In 2010, the GMG set up the Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies, co-chaired by UNDP and IOM. The Working Group facilitated enhanced inter-agency coordination at country level with a special focus on supporting government efforts to mainstream migration into national development strategies and developing related tools and resources. Drawing on the expertise of the GMG, the Working Group helped United Nations Resident Coordinators and country teams to develop coherent strategies and practical approaches with national partners, including civil society.

The Working Group also provided support for the project entitled Mainstreaming migration into national development strategies, which was managed by UNDP and IOM, in collaboration with the Government of Switzerland.

The key outputs and activities of the Working Group were as follows:

- [Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A handbook for policy-makers and practitioners](#) (2010);
- A review of 126 countries undertaking poverty reduction strategy paper reviews and/or for which the United Nations Development Assistance Framework was expected to be reviewed and updated in the following years (2011);
- Facilitation of the development of country-specific workplans and other related documents with United Nations country teams for the implementation of the pilot phase of the Mainstreaming migration into national development strategies project;
- Report addressing the capacities and requirements of United Nations country teams related to emigration and immigration;
- Guidance tool on Integrating the Migration–Employment Nexus in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (2015)
- [Guidance Note on Integrating Migration and Displacement in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks](#) (2017)

To complement and strengthen the Guidance Note on Integrating Migration and Displacement in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, the Working Group developed a trainer's manual for United Nations country teams, which forms part of the larger training package that also includes the Guidance Note, a collection of case studies, and a set of PowerPoint presentations. The manual supports trainers in the design, preparation and holding of workshops to meet the varying needs of country teams. It aims to promote a holistic understanding of policies, programmes and institutional arrangements to actively address migration phenomena in a tailored manner and the mainstreaming of migration and displacement into development activities and planning instruments.

The key target audience for the training course is United Nations country teams, but it is equally relevant for regional and headquarters staff members of United Nations agencies. It can also serve to train government partners and other stakeholders that are involved in programming on human mobility.

## Working Group on Data and Research

The aim of the Working Group on Data and Research, co-chaired by UN DESA and IOM and established in 2011, was to strengthen the evidence base for informed policymaking, programme implementation and evaluation in the field of international migration and development. In particular, the Working Group encouraged the collection, use, dissemination and analysis of accurate, timely and relevant migration data and promoted policy-relevant research on international migration and development.

It also enhanced coherence within the GMG in terms of data and research and represented the Group in its interactions with the GFMD on issues related to data and research, in particular through the GFMD Ad-hoc Working Group on Policy Coherence, Data and Research. The Working Group also had close synergies with the Thematic Working Group on Data on Migration and Remittance Flows of the World Bank's Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development.

The Working Group's key activities and outputs included:

- An inventory of impact assessments of international migration projects and programmes carried out by 16 GMG member agencies at country, regional and global levels, enabling those agencies to work more strategically in the area of migration and development at country and regional levels. (2011)
- Inputs on migration-related indicators for the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators in collaboration with the World Bank and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development (2015)
- [Handbook for Improving the Production and Use of Migration Data for Development](#) (2017)

## Working Group on Migration, Human Rights and Gender

The GMG Working Group on Migration, Human Rights and Gender – co-chaired by OHCHR, UNICEF and UN-Women – was established pursuant to a decision of the GMG Principals in November 2012.

The Working Group provided guidance to the GMG on addressing international migration from a human rights perspective, with a particular focus on the promotion and protection of the human rights of all migrants and their families in support of positive migration outcomes. The Working Group identified key objectives to support the integration of a human rights-based, gender-responsive and child-sensitive approach to migration in key policy processes, taking into account the rights of the most vulnerable and fostering the recognition and promotion of the important contributions migrants make to communities, societies, and to development more broadly.

The following key outputs were produced by the Working Group:

- Position paper on [Including migrants in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda](#) (2014);
- Policy paper entitled [Migration, Remittances and Financial Inclusion: Challenges and Opportunities for Women's Economic Empowerment](#) (2016);
- [Principles and Guidelines, supported by practical guidance, on the human rights protection of migrants in vulnerable situations](#) (2018)

## Task Force on Capacity Development

The Task Force on Capacity Development was established to strengthen the GMG's ability to centralize and disseminate information on existing capacity development activities; and to collect information, deepen reflection, and share research on existing efforts across different fields to enhance capacity development and related monitoring and evaluation activities. The Task Force was co-convened by IOM and UNITAR.

The Task Force aimed to improve understanding, and inter-agency cooperation and collaboration so as to promote synergies and avoid duplication in the area of capacity development; exchange information and results on capacity development activities, including their assessment and evaluations; establish a more comprehensive and systematic approach to the training needs of migration stakeholders; and identify opportunities for imparting new and innovative approaches to capacity development in the field of international migration and development.

As part of its work, the Task Force developed the [Online inventory of capacity development activities and tools](#) (2014)

## Task Force on Migration and Decent Work

The Task Force on Migration and Decent Work, co-convened by the ILO and IOM, was established to bridge the human rights, economic and development dimensions of labour migration, as well as to strengthen the evidence base for informed policymaking, programme implementation and evaluation in this field.

The Task Force improved understanding and increased the visibility of issues concerning migrant workers and their families, including issues arising during the labour migration process. The Task Force also initiated work on joint GMG positions for the Group's interaction with the GFMD on issues related to labour migration.

The key outputs of the Task Force were as follows:

- A guidance note on integrating decent work into the proposed structure of the draft United Nations Development Assistance Framework guidance note on migration and mobility (2015)
- Collection and addition of good practices from participating GMG agencies to the Good practices database - Labour migration policies and programmes during the fifth Labour Migration Academy at the International Training Centre of the ILO in Turin, Italy (2015)

## Conclusion of Global Migration Group activities and transition to the United Nations Network on Migration

The December 2017 report by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, entitled [Making migration work for all](#), presented three key ideas on inter-agency cooperation within the United Nations system in the field of migration.

First, the Secretary-General, while noting the breadth of migration-related activities in which the United Nations system was engaged, observed that it was “legitimate to ask whether the Global Migration Group, as currently set up, is best equipped to develop the type of coherent, ground-up approach that I believe the Member States will want in supporting their efforts to deliver on the global compact.”

Second, the Secretary-General clarified his expectations for future United Nations work in the field of migration: “In line with my proposals for reform of the United Nations development system, I will insist that we make facilitating delivery on the ground the litmus test of our efforts.”

Third, he stated that “we should encourage cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations or groups of States and look for ways to strengthen those relationships.”

The Secretary-General also announced his intention to hold intensive consultations on the approach of the United Nations system to migration.<sup>2</sup> These consultations led to the Secretary-General’s decision in May 2018 to establish the United Nations Network on Migration to succeed the GMG. The detailed methods of work and terms of reference of the Network were discussed during a framing meeting on 15 and 16 October 2018, which was convened by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration, with IOM support, and was attended by participants from the United Nations system.

Pursuant to that decision of the Secretary-General and the discussions held at the framing meeting, the Network will:

- Focus on effective and coherent system-wide support on the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration;
- Be coordinated by IOM, which will also serve as its Secretariat;
- Report to the Secretary-General on its activities. The Secretary-General will then, in turn, report to United Nations Member States, as required;
- Consist of those members of the United Nations system who wish to be a part of it and for whom migration is of relevance to their mandates. Within that Network, an Executive Committee (called a “Core Group” in the decision) will be established, comprising those entities with clear mandates, technical expertise and capacity in migration-related fields;
- Establish a focused number of working groups, made up of Network members and other partners, as relevant. The working groups will focus on specific issues and be results-oriented, providing technical advice and inputs to the Network as a whole – including tools and guidelines – and facilitating joint action at regional and country levels;
- Hold periodic meetings of the Network’s extended membership, at least annually. Other stakeholders will also be invited to attend, for information-sharing and agenda-setting purposes.

The Network will build on the achievements of the GMG and ensure effective, timely and coordinated United Nations system-wide support to Member States, particularly on the implementation, follow-up and review of the Global Compact.

.....  
 2 See paragraphs 69–76 of the [report](#).

## Background and membership

- The precursor of the Global Migration Group (GMG), the Geneva Migration Group, began to operate in 2003, consisting of ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNCTAD, UNHCR and UNODC.
- The “Geneva Migration Group” became the “Global Migration Group” (GMG) in 2006, with the addition of UN DESA, UNDP, UNFPA and the World Bank.
- In November 2007, the GMG admitted a further four members – UNESCO, UNICEF, the United Nations Regional Commissions and UNITAR.
- In 2010 WHO and UN-Women were admitted into the GMG.
- In 2014, FAO and UNU were admitted into the GMG.
- In 2016 UNEP, UNIDO and WFP were admitted to the GMG.
- In 2017 IFAD was admitted into the GMG.
- In 2018, the GMG consisted of 22 members: FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNEP, UN Regional Commissions, UNICEF, UNCTAD, UN DESA, UNDP, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNHCR, UNITAR, UNODC, UNFPA, UNU, UN-Women, World Bank, WFP and WHO.
- As a result of a decision of the UN Secretary-General, the GMG was replaced, in October 2018, by the UN Network on Migration.

## Chairmanships since 2006

- 2006 (January – June): United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- 2006 (July – December): United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- 2007 (January – June): International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- 2007 (July – December): United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs (UN DESA)
- 2008 (January – June): United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- 2008 (July – December): United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- 2009 (January – May): United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (*interim*)
- 2009 (June – December): United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
- 2010 (January – June): United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- 2010 (July – December): Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- 2011 (January – June): United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- 2011 (July – December): United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- 2012 (January – June): United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (*interim*)
- 2012 (July – December): United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- 2013 (January – June): United Nations Regional Commissions, coordinated by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
- 2013 (July – December): International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- 2014 (January – December): International Labour Organization (ILO)
- 2015 (January – December): World Bank
- 2016 (January – December): United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)

- 2017 (January – December): United Nations University (UNU)
- 2018 (January – December): Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and International Organization for Migration (IOM)

## Working Groups and Task Forces

- Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies (co-chaired by UNDP and IOM), established in 2010
- Working Group on Data and Research (co-chaired by UN DESA and IOM), established in 2011
- Working Group on Human Rights, Gender and Migration (co-chaired by OHCHR, UN-Women and UNICEF), established in 2013
- Task Force on Capacity Development (co-chaired by UNITAR and IOM), established in 2013
- Task Force on Migration and Decent Work (co-chaired by ILO and IOM), established in 2013

## Symposia, workshops and panel discussions

- Briefing to UN Member States in New York, 2007
- GMG panels and discussion with Member States at IOM Council Sessions in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2013
- Symposium on “Overcoming barriers: Building partnerships for migration and human development”, 2010
- Experts meeting on “The human rights of irregular migrants”, 2010
- Symposium “Migration and youth: Harnessing opportunities for development”, 2011
- Two workshops on learning, “Educating in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: Perfecting learning on capacity development projects”, 2013, 2014
- Two retreats on “Migration indicators for the post-2015 UN development agenda”, 2014
- GMG-ILO Workshop on the “Fair recruitment initiative” for GMG entities, social partners and other stakeholders, 2014
- GMG technical working level meeting on “Realizing post-2015 aspirations for migrants and migration”, 2014
- Briefing to Governments on, “The Global Migration Group: Work, priorities and future directions” on the margins of the GFMD Preparatory Meetings, 2014
- Side event of the GFMD-GMG-SRSG on International Migration on the margins of the 48th Session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) entitled “From Cairo to Addis: Migration, labour mobility and the renewed global partnership for sustainable development”, 2015
- GMG International Conference on “Harnessing migration, remittances and diaspora contributions for financing sustainable development”, 2015
- G-20-GFMD-GMG joint event at the side-lines of the G20 Development Working Group, 2015
- GMG Photo Exhibition: “Making migration work for all”, UN Headquarters, New York, 12–22 February 2018
- Side event to the 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW): “Maximizing the contribution of rural women migrants”, UN Headquarters, New York, 13 March 2018
- Side event to IOM’s 2018 International Dialogue on Migration (IDM): “Migration and rural development: Sharing experiences and fostering partnerships”, UN Headquarters, New York, 26 March 2018
- Side event to the 51st Session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD): “Mainstreaming migration into urban/local planning”, UN Headquarters, New York, 10 April 2018

## Joint Publications

- “International Migration, Development and Human Rights: Catalogue of Selected Resources”, 2008
- Report on “International Migration and Human Rights”, 2008
- Fact sheets on “The Impact of the Economic Crisis on Migration”, 2009 / 2010
- Handbook “[Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning](#)”, 2010
- Briefing papers on youth migration for GMG symposium on “Migration and Youth: Harnessing Opportunities for Development” and symposium report, proceedings and key messages, 2011
- Contribution to “Recommendations and Outcomes on Migration” for the UN System Chief Executives Board (CEB) and to the CEB publication on “International Migration and Development: Contributions and Recommendations of the International System”, 2013
- Thematic paper on “Exploitation and Abuse of International Migrants, particularly those in an Irregular Situation - A Human Rights Approach”, 2013
- Online inventory of capacity development tools and activities used by GMG agencies in the field of migration developed by the GMG Task Force on Capacity Development, 2014
- Report on “Migration and Youth: Challenges and Opportunities”, 2014
- Joint discussion paper on “Realizing the Inclusion of Migrants and Migration in the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda”, 2015
- [Stocktaking exercise on Protection-at-Sea](#), 2016 (facilitated by UNHCR)
- [Stocktaking exercise on Crisis-Related Migration](#), 2016 (facilitated by IOM)
- [GMG Guidance Note on Integrating Migration and Displacement in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks \(UNDAFs\)](#), 2017
- [GMG Principles and Guidelines supported by practical guidance, on the human rights protection of migrants in vulnerable situations](#), 2017 (WG on Migration, Human Rights and Gender). The Principles and Guidelines were submitted to the 37th session of the Human Rights Council in April 2018.
- [GMG Handbook for Improving the Production and Use of Migration Data for Development](#), 2017 (WG on Data and Research, with KNOMAD’s Thematic Working Group on Data). The handbook was formally launched in New York on 18 December 2017.

## Joint Statements

- Joint statement on “Human rights of migrants in an irregular situation”, 2010
- Joint statement on “Improving international cooperation on migration and development – How can the international community best support cooperation?” and joint priorities for action at the UN General Assembly Informal Thematic Debate on international migration and development, 2011
- Joint statement for international workshop on Migration Profiles entitled “Developing evidence-based migration and development policies”, 2011
- Joint statement on “The impact of climate change on migration”, 2011
- Joint statement on “International migration statistics” at the 45th Session of the UN Statistical Commission, 2014
- Joint statement on “Assessment of the status of implementation of the Programme of Action (PoA) of the International Conference on Population and Development” at the 47th Session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD), 2014
- Joint statement at the first high-level meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation: Building towards the post-2015 development agenda, 2014
- Statement by the ILO, in its capacity as GMG Chair, on the occasion of the debate on International Migration and Development at the 69th Session of the UN General Assembly, 2014

- [Joint communiqué](#) to the UN Secretary-General on “Realizing the inclusion of migrants and migration in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda”, 2014
- [Joint statement](#) on the “Outcome of the GMG retreat: Priorities for 2015” at the 13th Coordination Meeting on International Migration, 2015
- [Joint statement](#) at the 48th Session of the Commission on Population and Development, 2015
- [Joint statement](#) at the 14th Coordination Meeting on International Migration, 25–26 February 2016
- [Joint statement](#) at the 2016 IOM International Dialogue on Migration (IDM): Follow-up and review of migration in the SDGs, 29 February–1 March 2016
- [Joint statement](#) at the 47th Session of the Statistical Commission, 8–11 March 2016;
- [Joint statement](#) at the UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Women’s Economic Empowerment during the 60th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 16 March 2016
- [Joint statement](#) at the side event on Policies Empowering Migrant Women and Girls in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, held on the margins of the 60th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 24 March 2016
- [Joint statement](#) at the 49th Session of the Commission on Population and Development, 11 April 2016
- [Joint statement](#) at the Inaugural Meeting of the “Friends of Migration” Group, 13 May 2016
- [Message](#) on the importance of family remittances for development, on the occasion of the celebration of the International Day of Family Remittances, 16 June 2016
- [Joint statement](#) at the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Colombo Process, 25 August 2016
- [Joint statement](#) at the United Nations General Assembly High-level Summit Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants, 19 September 2016
- [Joint statement](#) at the United Nations General Assembly Second Committee General Discussion on International Migration and Development, 18 October 2016
- [Joint statement](#) at the GFMD Friends of the Forum Meeting, 20 October 2016
- [Joint statement](#) at the Roundtable on Political Participation in Times of Mass Migration and Refugee Crises, 9 December 2016
- [Joint statement](#) at Fourth Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration and Development, 26–27 June 2017
- [Message](#) in support of the International Day of Family Remittances, 16 June 2017
- [Joint statement](#) at the GFMD Thematic Workshop on Climate Change and Human Mobility - Towards dignified, coordinated and sustainable solutions, 24 May 2017
- [Intervention](#) at IOM’s IDM on Strengthening International Cooperation on and Governance of Migration towards the Adoption of a Global Compact on Migration 2018, 19 April 2017
- [Joint statement](#) at the GFMD Friends of the Forum Meeting, 5 April 2017
- [Joint statement](#) at the GFMD Friends of the Forum Meeting, 1 February 2017
- [Press release](#) of the United Nations University (UNU) as it assumes the role of GMG Chair, 1 January 2017
- [Joint statement](#) at the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Friends of the Forum, 5 February 2018
- [Joint statement](#) at the 16th Coordination Meeting on International Migration, 15 February 2018
- [Joint statement](#) at the International Dialogue for Migration (IDM), 26 March 2018
- [Joint statement](#) at the 51st Session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD), 9 April 2018
- [Joint statement](#) at the GFMD Thematic Workshop on “Migration for Development: A Roadmap to Achieving the SDGs”, 18 April 2018
- [Message](#) in support of the International Day of Family Remittances, 16 June 2018.

## UN General Assembly High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD)

- Joint position paper on the UN High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD), 2013
- Contributions to the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) publication on, “International Migration and Development: Contributions and Recommendations of the International System”, 2013
- Synthesis report on follow-up by GMG agencies to the 2013 UN High-level Dialogue on international migration and development (HLD), 2014.

## Post-2015 Development Agenda

- Joint position paper on migration and the post-2015 UN development agenda, 2013
- Position document of the GMG Working Group on Migration, Human Rights and Gender on “Including migrants in the post-2015 UN development agenda”, 2014
- Summary reports of the two workshops of the GMG Working Group on Data and Research on migration indicators for the post-2015 UN development agenda, 2014
- Joint communiqué on, “Realizing the inclusion of migrants and migration in the post-2015 UN development agenda”, 2014
- Side event to the 46th Session of the UN Statistical Commission organized by the GMG Working Group on Data and Research, 2015
- Joint discussion paper on “Realizing the inclusion of migrants and migration in the post-2015 UN development agenda”, 2015.

## Contributions to the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)

- Provision of technical assistance and substantive support to GFMD round tables, workshops, meetings and civil society days, individually and coordinated in the group, including the following:
  - GMG discussion paper on “Questions and issues of relevance to the inter-linkage between international migration, gender and development”, 2007
  - GMG agency contributions to a “Compendium of good practice policies in bilateral temporary labour arrangements” in follow-up to GFMD RT 1.2 outcomes and at the request of the governments of Spain and Morocco, 2007
  - GMG agency contributions to EC-Mauritius Workshop on “Circular migration” in follow-up to RT 1.4 and to lay the ground for future partnerships, 2007
  - GMG agency contributions to the papers and discussions informing the International Conference on “*Gender, Migration and Development: Seizing Opportunities and Upholding Rights*,” as part of the preparatory activities of the GFMD Summit in Manila, 2008
  - GMG joint publication on “International Migration and Human Rights: Challenges and Opportunities on the Threshold of the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights”, presented at the GFMD Summit in Manila, 2008
  - GMG fact-sheet on “The impact on the economic crisis on female migration”, at the GFMD Summit in Athens, 2009
  - GMG joint publication on “Mainstreaming Migration in Development Planning: A Handbook for Policy-makers and Practitioners”, presented to at GFMD Summit in Puerto Vallarta, 2010
  - GMG Issues Brief no. 1 on “Facilitating positive development impacts of diaspora engagement in skills transfers, investments and trade between countries of residence and origin”, 2013

- GMG Issues Brief no. 2 on “Improving the labour market outcomes of migration”, 2013
- GMG Issues Brief No. 3 on “Migration as an enabler for inclusive social development”, 2013
- Briefing to Governments on, “The Global Migration Group: Work, priorities and future directions” on the margins of the GFMD Preparatory Meetings, 2014
- GMG agency contributions to background papers for roundtable 1.1 on “Partnerships to promote inclusion and protect the human rights of all migrants to achieve the full benefits of migration”, 2015
- GMG agency contributions to background papers for roundtable 3.1 on “Enhancing human development and human security for forced migrants, who are compelled to cross international borders, through international cooperation on labour market access, educational opportunity, family reunification, and other avenues of mobility”, 2015
- GFMD-GMG-SRSG side event of the on International Migration on the margins of the 48th Session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) entitled “From Cairo to Addis: Migration, labour mobility and the renewed global partnership for sustainable development”, 2015
- G-20-GFMD-GMG joint event at the side-lines of the G20 Development Working Group, 2015
- Inputs into the preparatory process for the Ninth GFMD Summit, including through the drafting and finalization of the GFMD background papers by GMG members, 2016.
- Participation at events co-organized by the Bangladesh GFMD Chair:
  - Side event co-organized by UN-Women as GMG Chair 2016 and Bangladesh as GFMD Chair 2016 on “Policies Empowering Migrant Women and Girls in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” at the 60th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (24 March 2016)
  - Inaugural Meeting of the “Friends of Migration” Group (13 May 2016).
- Continued close collaboration with the GFMD, including participation at events such as the GFMD 2017 Summit in Berlin, as well as the broader UN system in support of the discourse on international migration and the provision of timely evidence-based policy options and recommendations.
- GFMD-GMG Side event to IOM’s 2018 International Dialogue on Migration (IDM): “Migration and Rural Development: Sharing Experiences and Fostering Partnerships”, UN Headquarters, New York, 26 March 2018.
- Statements at GFMD Workshops, Friends of the Forum, Thematic or Summit meetings including the following:
  - GMG joint statement at the GFMD Summit in Manila, 2008
  - GMG joint statement on the “Impacts of the financial and economic crisis on international migration and migrants”, at the GFMD Summit in Athens, 2009
  - GMG joint statement on the “Human Rights of Migrants in Irregular Situation”, at the GFMD Summit in Puerto Vallarta, 2010
  - GMG joint statement on “Developing evidence-based migration and development policies”, at the International Workshop on Migration Profiles in New York, 2011
  - GMG joint statement on “Addressing irregular migration through coherent migration and development strategies”, at the GFMD Thematic Meeting in Istanbul, 2011
  - GMG joint statement on “Combating violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families”, at the GFMD Summit in Port Louis, 2012
  - GMG Chair statement at the GFMD Summit in Stockholm, 2014
  - GMG Chair statement at the launch of the Turkish GFMD Chairmanship, 2014
  - GMG statement at the GFMD Special session on “GMG perspectives and future work on migration in the post-2015 development agenda”, 2015

- GMG Chair statement at the Fourth Meeting of the Friends of the Forum, 2015
- Coordination with GFMD Ad-hoc Working Group on policy coherence, data and research, 2010–2014
- GMG side event on “Good practices for empowering migrant domestic workers”, at the GFMD Civil Society Days (CSDs) in Stockholm, 2014
- GMG side event on “Migration and youth: Challenges and opportunities”, at the GFMD Summit in Stockholm, 2014
- GFMD Special Session on “Enhancing coordination between the GFMD and the United Nations system: SRSG Sutherland, GMG and the GFMD”, held at the GFMD Summit in Stockholm, 2014
- GFMD-GMG side event on “Fair migration and the sustainable post-2015 development agenda”, held in New York, 2014
- GFMD Thematic Workshop on Migration, Connectivity and Business, 29 March 2016
- GFMD Thematic Workshop on Migration for Harmonious Societies, 18 May 2016
- GFMD Thematic Workshop on Migration for Peace, Stability and Growth, 19 July 2016
- GFMD Friends of the Forum Meeting, 20 October 2016
- GMG joint statement at the Ninth GFMD Summit, 10 December 2016
- GMG Chair statement at the GFMD Friends of the Forum Meeting, 1 February 2017
- GMG Chair statement at the GFMD Friends of the Forum Meeting, 5 April 2017
- GFMD Thematic Workshop on Climate Change and Human Mobility - Towards dignified, coordinated and sustainable solutions, 24 May 2017
- GMG joint statement at the Tenth GFMD Summit, 28–30 June 2017
- GMG joint statement at the GFMD Friends of the Forum Meeting, 22 November 2017
- GMG Chair statement GFMD Friends of the Forum, 5 February 2018
- GFMD Thematic Workshop on “Migration for Development: A Roadmap to Achieving the SDGs”, 18 April 2018

## UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants

- Convened seven multi-stakeholder meetings around the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants

In preparation for the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants held in New York on 19 September 2016, the GMG the following five interactive, [multi-stakeholder meetings](#) to support the engagement of representatives from Member States, international organizations, civil society, and other stakeholders:

1. Understanding large movements of refugees and migrants, 25 April 2016
2. Protecting the human rights of all people in vulnerable situations within large movements, 30 June 2016
3. Strengthening responsibility sharing for refugees, 13 July 2016
4. Responding to large movements of refugees and migrants - Human rights protection, labour market options and a Global Compact for Migration, 20 July 2016
5. Development approaches to migration and displacement – Supporting national and local capacities to prepare for and respond to large movements, 13 September 2016.

Following the Summit, the GMG hosted two additional meetings related to the implementation of the Summit’s commitments as outlined in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, namely:

6. Migration-related commitments in the New York Declaration: The role of the UN system, 18 October 2016
7. The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants: Implementation of commitments to counter xenophobia, 31 October 2016.

The GMG's multi-stakeholder meetings featured panels of experts from international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and the research community. Meetings were co-chaired by Member States and co-organized by GMG members, and they addressed different but complementary themes, provided an important platform of engagement ahead of and pursuant to the Summit and were highly appreciated by participants. A [report](#) summarizing the outcomes of the rich and substantive discussions that took place was commissioned by the Chair and is available on the GMG website.

- Coordination of substantive GMG contributions and background documents for UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants

In addition to the multi-stakeholder meetings, the GMG Chair coordinated the drafting process for the concept notes for the six thematic round tables that took place at the 19 September 2016 Summit, and supported the inclusion of gender-related considerations in each of the concept notes. This process was undertaken in close collaboration with the Special Adviser on the Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants and in response to a request from the President of the UN General Assembly. Each of the concept notes was prepared under the co-leadership of two or more GMG entities, and they included inputs from all GMG members as well as relevant non-GMG members including the UN Department of Political Affairs (DPA), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (SRSG) on International Migration.

- Roundtable I: Addressing the Root Causes of Large Movements of Refugees (*lead entity: UNDP*)
- Roundtable II: Addressing drivers of migration, particularly large movements, and highlighting the positive contributions of migrants (*lead entity: FAO and UNFPA*)
- Roundtable III: International action and cooperation on refugees and migrants and issues related to displacement: The way ahead (*lead entity: UN-Women*)
- Roundtable IV: Global Compact for responsibility-sharing for refugees; respect for international law (*lead entities: ILO and UNHCR*)
- Roundtable V: Global compact for safe, regular and orderly migration: Towards realizing the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and realizing the human rights of migrants (*lead entities: UN DESA, IOM, UNU and the World Bank*)
- Roundtable VI: Addressing vulnerabilities of refugees and migrants on their journeys from their countries of origin to their countries of arrival (*lead entities: OHCHR, UNODC and UNICEF*).

UN-Women's Executive Director as GMG Chair 2016 addressed the opening plenary session of the 19 September Summit, presenting a joint GMG [statement](#).

## Global Compact for Migration process

- Preparation phase (prior to the start of the negotiations)
  1. Thematic sessions
    - The GMG provided assistance to the Office of the President of the General Assembly (OPGA) with organizing the Global Compact for Migration thematic sessions, as mandated by the modalities resolution for the intergovernmental negotiations of Global Compact for Migration ([A/RES/71/280](#)).
    - The GMG drafted inputs to the six issue briefs prepared by the SRSG in advance of each of the thematic sessions.
      - Issue Brief #1 Human rights of all migrants, social inclusion, cohesion and all forms of discrimination, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance (*Co-leads: OHCHR and WHO*)

- Issue Brief #2 Addressing drivers of migration, including adverse effects of climate change, natural disasters and human-made crises, through protection and assistance, sustainable development, poverty eradication, conflict prevention and resolution (Co-leads: FAO, UNDP, UNHCR)
- Issue Brief #3 International cooperation and governance of migration in all its dimensions, including at borders, on transit, entry, return, readmission, integration and reintegration (Co-leads: IOM and UNITAR)
- Issue Brief #4 Contributions of migrants and diasporas to all dimensions of sustainable development, including remittances and portability of earned benefits (Co-leads: UN DESA and the World Bank)
- Issue Brief #5 Smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and contemporary forms of slavery, including appropriate identification, protection and assistance to migrants and trafficking victims (Co-leads: UNODC)
- Issue Brief #6 Irregular migration and regular pathways, including decent work, labour mobility, recognition of skills and qualifications and other relevant measures (Co-leads: ILO and UN-WOMEN)

## 2. Publications/background documents

- Publication of resources developed by GMG entities geared at offering additional support to Member States and other stakeholders in the development of the Global Compact for Migration, including:
  - [GMG Compendium of Outputs and Resources for the Global Compact on Migration \(2017\)](#)
  - [GMG List of National Consultations on the Global Compact on Migration \(2017\)](#)
  - [GMG Paper on Migration, Remittances and Financial Inclusion: Challenges and Opportunities for Women's Economic Empowerment \(2017\)](#)
- Close engagement by GMG Principals throughout the year, including at two Principal Level Meetings of the GMG at key inflection points in the process, in April and November 2017.
- Participation by many GMG members in the Global Compact for Migration stocktaking meeting in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico in December 2017.

## 3. Seminars in NY

UNU's Migration Network and UNU-ONY organized a series of six seminars in New York on topics that were of direct relevance to the thematic consultations taking place in 2017 among Member States under the aegis of the OPGA.

- Intergovernmental negotiations April–July 2018

In the context of the negotiations of the Global Compact for Migration, the GMG developed a set of human rights and evidence-based, forward-looking thematic briefing notes and side events with the objective of focusing on key policy questions and addressing issues raised by Member States during the intergovernmental negotiations. The briefing notes sought to identify normative, operational and policy issues that the Global Compact for Migration should consider and, indicated experiences and good practices to illustrate how they could be addressed effectively. The briefing notes further looked to identify implications for the Global Compact for Migration and its implementation in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### 1. Thematic briefing notes

The GMG developed thematic briefing notes on the following issues:

- Migrants in Vulnerable Situations (*prepared by OHCHR, UNFPA, and UN-WOMEN*):

This [briefing note](#) illustrates how around the world, the human rights of millions of migrants are insufficiently protected or at risk of abuse. This briefing note also

shows how the [GMG principles and guidelines](#) offer advice to States on how they should implement their obligations to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of migrants who are in vulnerable situations, including in the course of large or mixed movements.

- Remittances (*prepared by IFAD and FAO*):

This [briefing note](#) on remittances stresses the key role of remittances as the most visible act of migrants' contribution to the development of their home countries and how the Global Compact for Migration presents a unique opportunity for UN Member States to agree on a common vision on how to make migration work for the benefit of all nations and populations and recognize the important contribution of remittances.

- Migration, Food Security, Agriculture and Rural Development (*prepared by FAO, WFP and IFAD*):

This [briefing note](#) stresses five key policy issues (data, choice, regular pathways, skill recognition and food insecurity crises) as well as the three main areas where the international community needs to redouble its efforts in order to ensure that migration works for rural populations: (1) investment in food systems, agriculture and rural development, (2) creation of enabling environment for migrant and diaspora contributions and (3) horizontal and vertical policy coherence.

## 2. Events

The GMG organized the following side events:

- Side event to the 4th Round of Negotiations of the Global Compact for Migration: "[The Contributions of Migrants to Sustainable Development](#)", UN Headquarters, New York, 15 May 2018;
- Side event to the 5th Round of Negotiations of the Global Compact for Migration: "[Leaving No-one Behind: Addressing the Vulnerabilities and Realizing the Human Rights of All Migrants through the Global Compact](#)", UN Headquarters, New York, 6 June 2018.



