

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)

SUBMISSION TO THE HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL

FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (HLPF)

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A) IMPACTS OF MULTIPLE CRISES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SDGS 1, 2, 13, 16 AND 17 FROM THE VANTAGE POINT OF YOUR INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODY



Millions of people are already moving globally. Migration has been for centuries, a cornerstone of development, prosperity and progress for many. It has the power to transform the lives of individuals, their families, their communities and societies for the better: the present estimated 281 million international migrants globally represent around 3.6% of the world's population, but are estimated to generate 9.4% of global GDP ([IOM, 2024](#)). Once migrants reach their destinations and enter the labour market, they not only contribute to the societies and economies of their destination countries, but also support those who stayed behind: without remittances, the proportion of the poor would be 5% higher in Ghana, 10% higher in Bangladesh, and 12% higher in El Salvador ([IOM, 2023](#)).



And more will move. Demographic transitions will cause migration trends to intensify in the near future. Economic shifts are making migration increasingly necessary for countries at all income levels. Urbanization is accelerating; inequalities are entrenched and societies divided; the world of work and global digital capacities are changing fast; and a “great finance divide” has curtailed the ability of many developing countries to invest in sustainable development ([UN, 2023](#)). Conflicts, climate change, disasters, environmental degradation and uneven development are increasingly driving displacement and forced migration ([IOM, 2024](#)). These factors will continue to shape and drive the movement of people, while putting unprecedented pressure on States, societies and individuals around the world.



To realize the full promise of migration, we need a new perspective and new approaches. Migrants are already adapting to shifting labour markets and new ways of working, and are ameliorating divergent demographic trends within and across regions. Well-managed regular migration pathways can strengthen global value chains and increase development financing through remittances and diaspora capital. Resettlement, humanitarian admissions and relocation solutions are leading to positive outcomes for people requiring protection, their families and their communities.



Safe, orderly, and regular migration pathways can accelerate sustainable development. Globally, there is a clear need to increase and improve the opportunities people have to move regularly. This involves ensuring that there are adequate avenues for people to move to, enter, and stay in a given State in a safe, orderly, and dignified manner. Where and how people migrate, and with what outcomes, depend to a large extent on the options available to them. But the currently available options are insufficient for the complex, shifting contexts of today and tomorrow.



We need to double down on global commitments and consider how migration can support them. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda), the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and the United Nations Secretary-General (SG) Action Agenda on Internal Displacement continue to provide the road map through which the full potential of migration can be harnessed, and displacement crises resolved, leaving no one behind.



As the world redoubles its efforts to implement the SDG Summit Political Declaration, we can and must do better. On the eve of the SDG Summit, IOM released its flagship report “[Leveraging Human Mobility to Rescue the 2030 Agenda](#)”, that articulates six comprehensive acceleration actions that can be contextualized and implemented to harness the power of migration. These actions connect countries and communities. They are universally relevant, giving a role to play to countries in all regions, in receiving and sending countries of migration alike. They knit together several cross-cutting elements of human mobility and development policy, which must be connected to all interventions.

SIX ACCELERATION ACTIONS

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- 1) **Extend social protection and universal health coverage to all migrants.**
 - 2) **Reduce remittance costs and leverage different types of diaspora contributions.**
 - 3) **Weave human mobility into development planning.**
 - 4) **Develop safe and regular migration pathways.**
 - 5) **Reduce the digital access gap for people on the move.**
 - 6) **Integrate human mobility into national adaptation and climate change response plans.**

Data modelling work conducted by IOM with renowned research entities for this report demonstrates the untapped potential of well-managed migration to propel sustainable development outcomes and presents some of the concrete benefits that could be reaped if these actions were implemented: for instance, it presents that if the current cost of remittances decreased by 5 percentage points, bringing it closer to the SDG target of 3% on average across corridors, this would mean in practice an extra USD 6.88 billion being sent to households in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) every year. For Small Island Developing States (SIDS), this would mean an extra USD 560 million every year. In the context of demographic transitions, it also presents that increasing current annual migration flows to OECD countries by 16.5% would fully compensate for the projected demographic deficit, and that doing this would lead to additional growth of 0.2% in OECD countries by 2030, adding USD 90 billion to GDP of the area.

This year's in depth-review of SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17 underlines how, while migrants are often among the furthest left behind, they simultaneously push forward development, well-being and growth for people and planet. This submission also presents how a combination of the above acceleration actions may be implemented to advance progress for each of the SDGs under in-depth review, and how this can have positive knock-on effects across other SDGs.

This year's submission reiterates the centrality of gender-responsive perspectives in all aspects of migration governance, and of youth as crucial for transformative action. Gender affects every stage of the migration process, shaping the motives, consequences and experiences of migration for all individuals, from men to women, boys, girls and persons identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people. Addressing the intersection of migration and gender and using intersectional approaches to consider where gender interacts with other factors like age or disability to shape individuals' migration experiences will stymie development outcomes: already, women labour migrants tend to remit a higher proportion of their incomes, sending money more regularly and for longer periods of time; and using gender analysis can help develop more durable responses to environmental migration. Provided with the opportunities to reach their potential, young people will help drive innovation, development, peace and security. To do so, it is critical to include supporting young people's well-being and empowerment through access to decent work, skills development, and services, and including migrant youth throughout these efforts.



1 NO POVERTY



GOAL 1. END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE

Migration is an age-old coping and adaptation strategy that has lifted millions out of poverty. It remains today a powerful poverty reduction tool for migrants and their families as well as for the communities where they live, and they come from.

Mobility can benefit communities of origin, where it is linked to poverty reduction, increased innovation and entrepreneurship, and investment in businesses and human capital. Mobility can also benefit communities of destination, as migrants buoy specific labour markets, lead to greater productivity and contribute to countries' fiscal budgets. In Chile, for example, a study revealed that between 2009 and 2017, the country's GDP increased by \$63.3 billion, mainly sustained by the contribution made by the Chilean workforce and migrants recently arriving from Peru, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, and Haiti ([UN/ECLAC](#), 2022). For example, every additional 1% of immigration could boost GDP growth in destination countries by 2%, and eliminating mobility restrictions could increase world GDP by 11.5–12.5% ([IMF](#), 2020). Remittances finance sustainable development, climate adaptation and contribute to poverty reduction objectives ([World Bank](#), 2016). In 2022, remittances to developing countries reached USD 647 billion, representing the largest source of external finance flows to low-and middle-income countries (LMICs) other than China, at about three times the volume of official development assistance (ODA).

Human mobility can benefit both origin and destination communities

Yet, migrants are more likely than non-migrants to be in poverty. Data from 36 countries around the world in 2015 showed that around 35% of international migrants were in or at risk of poverty, compared to just 23% of non-migrants exposure to poverty is often greater for specific migrant sub-groups, such as those from countries outside the region they live in. For example, 43% of non-EU migrants in European countries were at risk of poverty while only 37% of migrants from other EU countries were ([IOM](#), 2015). Many migrants face exclusion from social protection programs and from essential health care services. Due to different restrictions, many migrants have no access to social protection; approximately 22% of labour migrants are not covered and 55% cannot transfer their benefits home or to another country. Despite several international legal instruments recognizing the right to health for everyone, migrants have the same access to health services as nationals in only half of 84 countries surveyed in a study. Meanwhile, the average cost of sending USD 200 of remittances was 6.3% in 2022, over double the SDG target of 3% ([IOM](#), 2023).

MORE CAN AND MUST BE DONE, NOW:

- While private funds cannot replace public spending, reduce remittance costs and leveraging different types of diaspora contributions to boost sustainable development finance, trade systems and global value chains.
- Develop safe and regular migration pathways for immediate economic benefits for mobile populations themselves, and for communities of origin and destination: a recent study has shown that every additional 1% of immigration could boost GDP growth in destination countries by 2%, and eliminating mobility restrictions could increase world GDP by 11.5–12.5%.
- Extend social protection and universal health coverage to all migrants will help reduce poverty, improve health and education outcomes, boost integration and is linked to greater social inclusion and cohesion.

Implementing integrated actions in this area will not only accelerate progress on SDG1, but will have positive ripple effects on SDGs 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 16, 17.



GOAL 2. END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

The relationship between migration and agriculture and the food-migration nexus is evident across a variety of country contexts and migration dynamics; and offers numerous opportunities for building sustainable food systems. Migration has long been a strategy for households to manage the risks of food insecurity, building resilience to fluctuations in agricultural production, income and employment.

Migrant workers contribute to the food security of their children and households. Almost half of all remittances sent to developing countries goes to rural areas, where 75% of the world's poor and food-insecure live ([UN](#), 2023). A study from Sri Lanka

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for instance showed that prevalence of stunting and wasting in children in migrants households were 12 and 18% respectively, compared to 15% and 22% for those in non-migrants household ([Jayatissa; Wickramage](#), 2016). With one-quarter of the global farm work done by migrant workers, and as migrants also work throughout the food transformation supply chains, including in transportation and logistics; they contribute to the food supply and food security of billion others ([UN](#), 2023). In Italy, 370 000 migrants from 155 countries are employed in agriculture, around half of

the total sector's estimated workforce ([EU/EPRS](#), 2021). An estimated 25% of migrants' savings goes into agriculture-related investments ([IFAD](#), 2023). Migrants, and especially youth, often develop new skills and introduce innovative ideas for potential investment or new businesses back home, particularly in the food sector.

At the same time, migrants are deeply impacted by the effects of climate change and converging crises shaping migration and food security trends. Conflicts and disasters lead to displacement from rural areas, leaving life-sustaining livestock and income yielding-crops behind. When displacement is longer term or protracted, this can lead to the disruption or collapse of food production, the degradation of agricultural land, and the breakdown of agricultural value chains. The number of forcibly displaced people in food-crisis countries and territories reached 103 million in 2022, 14 million more people than at the end of 2021 ([FSIN](#), 2023). Forced migrants are more likely to develop malnutrition related conditions, and people on the move are, in general, at risk of food insecurity, due to barriers such as remote routes, but also due to the often-irregular nature of their stay in transit or destination countries. Data showed that 21% of United States of America (US)-born Children with foreign born mothers who had been in the US for more than five years were food insecure, in contrast to 10% of US-born Children to native born mothers ([Children Health Watch](#), 2018). Migrant workers are overrepresented in the riskiest occupational sectors, value and supply chains. Many do work under informal or irregular arrangements.

MORE CAN AND MUST BE DONE, NOW:

- The overall development of rural communities can be enriched by well-managed migration to and from rural areas. In a context of rapid urbanization, weave human mobility into rural and urban development planning, to increase social cohesion, inclusion and boost development for all.
- Reduce remittance costs and leverage different types of diaspora contributions to foster the transfer of skills, know-how, and technology, as well as investments for agricultural diversification and sustainable food systems.
- Reduce the digital access gap for people on the move, to improve integration and unlock entrepreneurship to transformative processes in high tech agricultural practices and supply chains, and raise sustainability standards.

Implementing integrated actions in this area will not only accelerate progress on SDG2, but will have positive ripple effects on SDGs 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17.



13 CLIMATE ACTION



GOAL 13. TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

Migration and climate change are intricately linked, forming a complex interplay that meshes with social, economic, and other challenges and that significantly impacts individuals, communities and societies worldwide. But anticipatory action and well-managed migration can provide solutions for people to stay; for people on the move; and for people to move in safety and dignity.

Many households already use migration as a strategy to increase preparedness for future hazards, and evidence attests to the effectiveness of human mobility as an adaptation strategy. For instance, circular migration has been used as a coping mechanism following disasters in Belize and in the context of longer-term environmental degradation in Mexico ([IOM, 2023](#)). For individuals and households, migration can reduce pressure on natural resources in communities of origin, diversify livelihood options by providing access to new employment opportunities and markets, enabling people to send remittances and facilitate the transfer of knowledge and skills through diaspora networks or upon return, including in support of a green and just transition. The recent Falepili Union Treaty signed between Tuvalu and Australia illustrates opportunities for building out forward-looking, proactive, innovative migration pathways that can work for the benefit of all ([Center for Global Development, 2023](#)). Proactively addressing the adverse climatic and environmental drivers that compel people to move contributes to making migration a choice and not a necessity.

Anticipatory action and well-managed migration can provide solutions for people to stay and move in safety and dignity

Still, more than half of all internal displacement around the world are driven by climate-induced disasters. There were 32.6 million new internal displacements due to weather-related events in 2022 ([IDMC, 2023](#)). The frequency, duration, and intensity of those events means that these numbers are going to go up. For example, people exposed to river floods will more than triple, while rising average global temperatures will see a tenfold increase in the number of people exposed to droughts by 2090, from around 5 to 57 million ([IOM, 2024](#)). Migrants, IDPs, and other affected populations, including “trapped” or “immobile” vulnerable or marginalized groups less likely to have the necessary resources required to move are at high risk of being left behind. The implications of the climate crisis are far-reaching, for example, climate change-related declines in agricultural productivity can trigger rural–urban migration, leading to increased pressures on cities and labour markets. Inadequate sanitation and hygiene, or water- or vector-borne disease outbreaks may increase, and the resilience of health systems in the context of climate change must be considered and are crucial in determining migrant well-being. Policy coherence is crucial to managing climate change. Yet, while 33 of the 40 National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) submitted to the UNFCCC mention one or more forms of human mobility, mobility-related terms are not used coherently and most plans ignore how mobility can help enhance adaptation (such as through pastoralism, or labour migration). Out of 165 Intended Nationally Determined Contributions, only 20% refer to human mobility ([IOM, 2023](#)).

MORE CAN AND MUST BE DONE, NOW:

- Integrate human mobility into national adaptation and climate change response plans, and invest in preparedness and loss and damages provisions, to forge impactful climate action that places the voices of affected populations at the core of responses, protect their rights and respect their freedom of choice.
- Develop and facilitate safe and regular migration pathways, including by investing in skills development and facilitate up-skilling, re-skilling, and recognition of qualifications, to meet the needs of changing labour markets and divergent demographic trends, and support a just and green transition.
- Leverage different types of diaspora contributions to support climate adaptation, boost sustainable global value chains, and unleash innovation and green entrepreneurship.

Implementing integrated actions in this area will not only accelerate progress on SDG13, but will have positive ripple effects on SDGs 3, 5, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17.



GOAL 16. PROMOTE PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL AND BUILD EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE INSTITUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS

In increasingly diverse societies, characterized by distrust, and weak social cohesion, migrants can be agents of intercultural interaction and strengthen community bonds. But the pervasive politicization of migration, the high risk of new and re-emergent conflicts, and deep-rooted inequalities within and amongst societies are leading to worsening prospects for people on the move.

Migrants' groups and diaspora support communities in fragile States and contribute to community-led stabilization processes and peacebuilding efforts. Migrant participation and consultation on policies that affect them strengthens their integration. In

Migrants can be agents of intercultural interaction and strengthen community bonds

Iraq for instance, a study of Local Peace Agreements that set the foundations for peaceful relations between IDPs and their home communities found that failure to include IDPs directly in LPA negotiations potentially undermined sustainability of IDP return ([World Bank](#), 2022). Using participatory approaches supports displacement responses in cities, and integrating urban migrants' perspectives into policy is linked with more effective, sustainable and legitimate solutions, as migrants can introduce new information that policymakers were not aware of to support programmes, and

are more likely to comply with policies over which they feel ownership ([Migration Policy Institute](#), 2023). Conversely, ensuring that the world is more peaceful, more just for all, and more sustainable is the direction of travel to ensure that migration remains always a choice and that it does not stem out of desperation.

Unfortunately, inadequate migration pathways and protections leave people vulnerable to violence, exploitation and abuse. Migration remains far from safe, and the intersectionality of factors, such as age, ethnicity, gender and disability, leaves some individuals even more vulnerable to harm. 60,000 migrants have been reported dead or missing along migratory routes in the last nine years, including more than 3,200 children ([IOM](#), 2024). Further, displaced newborns may be at higher risk of not having legal identity, increasing chances to be stateless. In many parts of the world, migrant smuggling, human trafficking and modern slavery have become highly lucrative illicit businesses that lead to immense suffering. Globally, more than 156,000 victims of human trafficking from 187 nationalities and in 189 countries of exploitation have been identified and assisted by IOM since 2012, 68% of them being girls and women ([IOM](#), 2024). Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is widespread along migration journeys, especially irregular routes. Many migrants around the world face discrimination. One study found that, 43% of Venezuelan migrants across Latin America and the Caribbean felt discriminated against due to their nationality ([UNHCR](#), 2019), and in 2018, 30% of UK-born adults with migrant parents felt they were part of a group discriminated against, compared to 5% of UK-born adults with UK parents ([COMPAS](#), 2018). Political participation and representation of migrants tends to be low, and in fact migrants have no right to vote in at least 31 countries out of 56 studied ([IOM](#), 2023).

MORE CAN AND MUST BE DONE, NOW:

- When cohesion is threatened, taking a whole-of-society approach to development and including everyone's voices and priorities is critical, there is an urgent need to weave human mobility into development and sectoral planning, notably urban planning, to increase social cohesion, improved integration outcomes and boost development for all.
- Develop and facilitate safe and regular migration pathways that address the intersecting forms of discrimination, exclusion and exploitation which impede migrants' ability to exercise their rights and contribute to sustainable development.

Implementing integrated actions in this area will not only accelerate progress on SDG16, but will have positive ripple effects on SDGs 1, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 17.



GOAL 17. STRENGTHEN THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REVITALIZE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

To seize the opportunities and face the challenges of migration in an increasingly interdependent and complex world while supporting the world's most vulnerable populations, partnerships are indispensable. Governments, the private sector, other international organizations, academia, civil society and, of course, migrants and their communities are all essential actors.

Strong partnerships boost capacities to address gaps in the quantity, accuracy, timeliness, comparability and accessibility of migration data; which in turn supports better programming and policies to help reduce vulnerabilities, and empowers people and communities impacted by migration. Multi-stakeholder partnerships allow to connect policy areas that may not seem directly related to migration, but that do shape migration dynamics: trade policies can impact livelihoods in a local area, later increasing emigration flows; as do policies in other areas, from agriculture to urban design and public health. Multi-level partnerships advance and operationalize policy coherence in practice to leverage migration for sustainable development: empowering local authorities and working directly with communities and cities creates development solutions that work on the ground in real time, crucial to implementing what may otherwise seem abstract ideas. This is especially true in urban areas, since cities are at the front line of mobility dynamics and responses; 65% of SDG targets are linked to local government activity. And at times when the global economy is facing multiple shocks aggravated by an unfair global financial system, human mobility provides – through remittances and other forms of migrants' savings and investments – solutions to mobilize financial resources for developing countries, and that enhance global macro-economic stability.

**Multi-level
partnerships advance
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coherence in practice to
leverage migration for
sustainable development**

Despite this, mobile population groups are often excluded from official statistics and therefore from development policies. In 2022, the global SDG database disaggregated only one indicator by migratory status – and on average, only 55% of countries report on SDG migration indicators (IOM, 2022). Further, migration and development policy require strong cooperation across countries. People cross borders and affect different countries simultaneously; however, a real sense of mutuality in international cooperation on migration is often missing. Similarly, cooperation is woefully insufficient on transnational development solutions required in a context of profound global transformations: for instance, as it relates to the much needed international and multi-stakeholder cooperation and investments in skills development and facilitation of mutual recognition of qualifications, to meet the needs of changing labour markets and divergent demographic trends. Remittance transfer costs remain excessively high. If the current cost of remittances decreased by 5 percentage points, bringing it closer to the SDG target of 3% on average across corridors, this would mean in practice an extra USD 6.88 billion being sent to households in LMICs per year. For Small Islands Developing States, that contend with unique development financing challenges, this would mean an extra USD 560 million every year (IOM, 2023).

MORE CAN AND MUST BE DONE, NOW:

- Leveraging human mobility for progress has key implications for how development is done. Mobility has links across humanitarian, development, peace and many other dimensions; insights from across these must be called on; and there is a need to weave human mobility into development and sectoral planning across levels and through processes that bring the voices of all stakeholders and partners.
- Reduce remittance costs and leverage different types of diaspora contributions to boost sustainable development finance and contribute to macro-economic stability.

Implementing integrated actions in this area will not only accelerate progress on SDG17 but will have positive ripple effects on all other SDGs.



B) THREE KEY AREAS WHERE SUSTAINABLE, RESILIENT AND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR ACHIEVING THE SDGS ARE BEING EFFECTIVELY DELIVERED, ESPECIALLY RELATED TO THE CLUSTER OF SDGS UNDER REVIEW IN 2024, CONSIDERING THE THREE DIMENSIONS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE INTERLINKAGES ACROSS THE GOALS AND TARGETS

KEY AREA 1

Global demographic shifts and economic transformations underpin the need for migration to drive sustainable development. A recent report showed that 30 million vacant jobs across the world's 30 largest economies translate to a staggering USD 1.3 trillion annual loss for businesses, and could reasonably reach USD 20 trillion by 2050 (IOM; Boston Consulting Group, [2022](#)). Ageing populations are going to exacerbate these labour shortages. By 2050, countries such as Japan, the Republic of Korea, Italy, Spain, Greece and Portugal are projected to have nearly 40% of their populations over the age of 65 (OECD, [2017](#)). Meanwhile, in Africa, where 70% of the population is under 30 and 40% are under 14, there is a stark scarcity of job opportunities (UN, [2024](#)). There are millions of people with the skills, talent, and experience to work, but there are insufficient pathways for them to migrate regularly to find greater opportunity.

Skills Mobility Partnerships (SMPs) are an innovative and highly adaptive IOM tool to maximize the development benefits of labour mobility by focusing on human capital and skills development. Unlike traditional labour mobility that not always guards the interests of migrants, their communities and countries of origin; SMPs offer an efficient, equitable and sustainable approach to labour mobility that responds to stakeholders' needs and interest. Underpinned by a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, SMPs build robust collaboration within and across countries, strengthen institutional capacities, thereby driving sustainable development outcomes for a host of actors and individuals at the intersection of migration, training, employment and development. IOM is the first and only UN Agency with operational tools to implement skills partnerships to deliver on the developmental promise of labour migration. Testament to this collaborative approach, SMP operational tools incorporated contributions from other UN Agencies, such as ILO, UNESCO, ITUC, and IOE, in the context of the Global Skills Partnership on Migration, and beyond. SMPs create economic opportunities and empower marginalized communities (SDG 1). They build the skills needed to adapt to rapidly changing environments and to drive the green transition (SDG 13). They capacitate training institutions to work together and they serve as a catalyst to build the skills and human capital for the challenges and opportunities of the twenty-first century, connecting people, goods, services, knowledge and innovation (SDGs 16 and 17).

KEY AREA 2

The world urgently needs creative plans to finance sustainable development, and developing countries need sustainable and reliable financial support from a variety of sectors to boost resilience and growth. Migration and migrants can help provide solutions to this. Diasporas boost trade systems and development financing. In 2022, remittances to developing countries reached USD 647 billion, about three times the volume of official development assistance. Remittances help stabilize macroeconomic volatility by financing current account deficits, and act as insurance during crises or after disasters. They can also present a useful source of foreign currency and assets in countries' Balance of Payments. Through the human capital that diasporas bring, mobility stimulates trade by removing informational, communication and cultural barriers. Migrants' knowledge can increase trade in goods and services by improving market access, increasing demand and lowering transactions costs as they help connect firms with buyers overseas. Diasporas also use their human and financial capital to support origin countries' productivity and can catalyze foreign direct investment and development in capital markets, by diversifying the investor base and introducing new financial products and sources of funding.



IOM remains fully engaged through innovative approaches that establish an environment that reduces remittance costs and leverages different types of diaspora contributions to boost sustainable development finance, trade systems and global value chains. The iDiaspora serves as the global hub aimed at maximizing diaspora engagement. This dynamic and innovative platform facilitates collaboration among diaspora leaders, organizations, practitioners, experts, businesses, and governments, allowing them to exchange opinions, ideas, experiences, and best practices. By harnessing the collective expertise and resources of these diverse stakeholders, iDiaspora contributes significantly to sustainable positive change and empowers diaspora communities as key drivers of development. Notably recognized as a leading best practice in advancing the SDGs, iDiaspora has experienced a steady growth over the last year (2170 members) and was honored to be selected to participate in the UN Global Pulse Scale Accelerator program in 2023. This recognition underscores iDiaspora's commitment to scaling tangible transnational solutions worldwide, further amplifying its impact on global development efforts.

KEY AREA 3

Over the past decade, weather-related events – including floods, storms and wildfires – have caused over 200 million new displacements worldwide. In 2022 alone, weather-related disasters caused 32.6 million new displacements, amounting to 53% of new internal displacements around the world ([IOM, 2023](#)). This number will only increase over the coming decades, as more and more communities will be impacted by the adverse effects of climate change. Solving and preventing displacements can harness the tremendous potential and resilience of communities for prosperity, progress and achievement of the SDGs. But effectively preventing and sustainably resolving all forms of displacement requires fundamental changes in policy and practice. Development-oriented approaches that are State-led and adequately financed are required to integrate solutions earlier in a response, solve displacement at scale, and prevent future displacements from occurring. To do this, understanding how, when and where communities will be affected by climate change is crucial.

To support anticipatory action, IOM is investing in innovation, data, predictive analytics, and early warning and forecasting mechanisms; and renewing efforts implemented in close collaboration with partners to address human mobility in the context of disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation. In 2023, IOM's Global Data Institute (GDI) inaugurated the Periodic Global Report on the State of Solutions to Internal Displacement ([PROGRESS](#)) initiative, with the release in November of its first report developed in collaboration with the Georgetown University's Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM). PROGRESS is an initiative that analyses data, amplifies voices and experiences of IDPs, returnees and host communities, and asks new questions to find solutions to prolonged internal displacement and to engage national governments and UN system actors and everyone working to drive sustainable and climate-resilient solutions to displacement at scale, so that no one is left behind.

In 2023 as well, and building on the work implemented in the context of the IMRF by IOM and the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD), with support from GIZ, to develop a baseline mapping of national and regional policies and practices relevant to addressing human mobility in the context of disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation under the GCM; the [CLIMB database](#) was launched in October 2023. This new platform focuses on policy and legal instruments and practices addressing human mobility in the context of the adverse effects of climate change, disasters, and environmental degradation. The tool provides a resource for policymakers as well as researchers, practitioners and other stakeholders working in the area of policy development on human mobility, disasters, climate change, and environmental degradation. Although the database uses the implementation of GCM commitments as a starting point, it can also be relevant in relation to other key global policy frameworks in this area (e.g. the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Sendai Framework). The database is a living repository, that will be regularly updated as national and regional policy review efforts progress. The database contains indications on gender, child, local governance and human rights markers.



C) THREE EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS, POLICIES AND MEASURES THAT ARE MOST URGENTLY NEEDED TO EFFECTIVELY DELIVER SUSTAINABLE, RESILIENT AND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO ERADICATE POVERTY AND REINFORCE THE 2030 AGENDA, BUILDING ON INTERLINKAGES AND TRANSFORMATIVE PATHWAYS FOR ACHIEVING THE SDGS

In the context of global transformations that have been discussed in this submission, the evidence shows that if we focus on expanding regular pathways for migration, the world would realize a multitude of benefits, including:

- Enhanced public confidence in migration that is safe, regular and dignified.
- Reduced pressure on asylum systems as individuals will have more options to move.
- A greater alignment of migrant skills with the needs in destination countries.
- A reduced reliance on ad hoc intermediaries, thus destroying the smuggling and trafficking business model.
- A more sustainable development model that benefits migrants, countries of origin and destination.

Leveraging human mobility for progress has key implications for how development is done, business as usual is simply not good enough. A holistic approach is needed to bring solutions at scale. In addition to key acceleration actions that have been presented in this submission with a catalytic potential, this will require continued political commitment, technical expertise, and dialogue to:

1. Double down on existing human mobility, sustainable development and other global commitments. We have the blueprints needed for transformation: the 2030 Agenda, Addis Ababa Action Agenda, Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Agreement and many others. It is fundamental to achieve progress on these, while including migrants and integrating migration considerations across these, thereby creating long-lasting solutions to global challenges.
2. Implement mobility-centric frameworks, in particular the GCM. The GCM offers a 360-degree vision, ten guiding principles and 23 objectives, commitments and actions. This provides a robust and internationally agreed framework of good migration governance; as a comprehensive blueprint for action, it is central to leverage migration for response and recovery efforts and accelerate migration-related SDG implementation. The SG Action Agenda on Internal Displacement can transform the way displacement crises are resolved, prevented and addressed, and how humanitarian support for those most in need is delivered.
3. End misinformation and political manipulation of human mobility. Different types of migration have been simplified, stigmatized and politicized around the world. We regularly hear that migrants lead to lower wages, fewer jobs, heavy burdens on public services, lower social cohesion, and increased crime. In reality, these perceptions are often overblown or factually incorrect. This situation must change, not only to spare migrants unjust scapegoating, but to clear the road ahead for transformative change.



D) FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS AND MEASURES BEING UNDERTAKEN BY YOUR INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODY TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLITICAL DECLARATION OF THE SDG SUMMIT

The Political Declaration of the SDG Summit is a renewed commitment to deliver on the 2030 Agenda and the promise to leave no one behind, through bold, innovative and transformative actions anchored in international solidarity and effective cooperation at all levels.

Concomitantly to the adoption of the Political Declaration, IOM initiated its new strategic planning cycle. In January 2024, it launched – following extensive consultations with migrants themselves, as well as dialogue with Member States, with other partners and other UN agencies – its new global five-year [IOM Strategic Plan](#) aimed at delivering on the promise of safe, orderly, and regular migration while supporting the world's most vulnerable. Fully aligned with the 2030 Agenda, the Strategic Plan will guide and gear up the work of IOM at global, regional and country levels to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda, and to accelerate implementation of the plan of action agreed upon in the Political Declaration.

We have reached a defining moment in the global approach to migration. Comprehensive solutions to the world's biggest challenges – from poverty and inequality to climate change and conflict – are all inextricably linked to migration. The Strategic Plan sets out three overarching goals to leverage the full and powerful force of migration for development: 1) saving lives and protecting people on the move; 2) driving solutions to displacement, with IOM combining its data and expertise to proactively address crises before they get wider and more expensive; 3) and facilitating pathways for regular migration, which will help migration become safer and more orderly and dismantle the incentives for smuggling, trafficking, exploitation, and abuse.

The Strategic Plan doubles down on Partnerships as a key enabler: long-term partnerships built on trust to have the right networks and entry points in place to deliver multidimensional, whole-of-society and whole-of-government solutions. As a core member of the UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) and Coordinator and Secretariat of UN Network on Migration (UNNM), IOM will continue to play a central role in ensuring effective, timely and coordinated UN system-wide support to Member States to enhance cooperation on international migration and maximize its contribution to sustainable development. For instance, ahead of the SG report on the implementation of the GCM due later this year, and building on the 2022 International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) Progress Declaration in which Member States agreed to strengthen the linkages between the implementation of the GCM and the 2030 Agenda, the UNNM has already initiated support for the second round of forward-thinking [GCM Regional Reviews](#) to take place in 2024 and that will provide an opportunity to Member States and stakeholders to review implementation of the GCM – the blueprint for good migration governance rooted in the 2030 Agenda.

Building on IOM 70-plus years of experience, the new Strategic Plan mainstreams innovative thinking to help migrants, their families, communities, and societies flourish. IOM is currently establishing a funding mechanism on innovation, the IOM Innovation Facility, to support new and transformative solutions for migrants, communities and partners, in line with the 2030 Agenda and the GCM. By fostering different approaches for greater effectiveness and impact, this innovation mechanism will provide seed funding to anticipate and address potential challenges, thereby strengthening forward thinking approaches and transformative solutions. It seeks to invest in capacities that transcend traditional approaches, enabling transformative change and fostering an organizational culture of innovation to address multifaceted migration challenges while promoting migration as a key driver of sustainable development. The Innovation Facility will create a space for engaging a broad and diverse set of stakeholders and donors, including private sector partners, academic institutions, and NGOs, fostering a collaborative environment where various perspectives and resources can contribute to the innovation process at IOM.



The plan outlines how IOM will further develop and adopt new technologies and approaches to increase the speed, efficiency and scale of its responses for accelerated impacts, through strong collaboration with the private sector and academic partners. For instance, through its Migration Health Assessments Programmes, that benefited 904,000 individuals in 2022, IOM safeguards the health of migrants and communities, working on early detection and treatment of individual and public health concerns, promoting safer travel and preventing adverse health events during the migration process and upon arrival in host communities. For this purpose, IOM is constantly updating and enhancing its health informatics technical solutions, for example the IOM Global Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Platform. This platform is ISO compliant and uses cloud managed services to integrate smoothly with essential health-care systems, and to improve the handling of TB screening data and patient journey information. IOM is also now working with Microsoft business partners and the US Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) on creating the next generation IOM Migrant Solutions (MIMOSA NG) for immigration health screening and resettlement operations. The prototype of MIMOSA NG will be operational in Thailand in May 2024, and will facilitate and assist medical and operational tasks through a highly workflow oriented design, while at the same time ensuring real-time, comprehensive integration with host country IT infrastructure, such as the US Refugee Processing Center (RPC) START platform and CDC Electronic Disease Notification System (EDN), and important internal medical applications, such as the Lab Information Management System and the global Tele-Radiology network.



E) RECOMMENDATIONS AND KEY MESSAGES FOR INCLUSION INTO THE MINISTERIAL DECLARATION OF THE 2024 HLPF

As this review of the SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16, and 17 has evidenced, migration is more than ever a multi-faceted reality that does already – and could even more – contribute to accelerating progress towards the 2030 Agenda the SDGs as a whole. It has also presented in clear terms how well-managed migration will be essential to meet the global transformations at play.

Millions of people are already moving globally. And more will move. To realize the full promise of migration, we need a new perspective and new approaches. Safe, orderly, and regular migration pathways can accelerate sustainable development. As the world redoubles its efforts to implement the SDG Summit Political Declaration, we can and must do better for solutions at scale.

No country can address the challenges and opportunities of migration alone. As we already know is the case for sustainable development, the needs of countries are more likely to be met if they are considered together – collective gains reward collaboration on migration governance as well.

Building on the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit, and a few months ahead of the Summit for the Future, the 2024 HLPF Ministerial Declaration should underline that:

- Migration is an accelerator for bridging the progress gap across SDGs, for inclusive growth and for sustainable development, enriching societies through human, socio-economic and cultural capacities; and that migrants are key contributors to sustainable development in countries of origin, transit and destination, often acting as agents of change driving innovation entrepreneurship, international trade and foreign direct investment.
- To realize the 2030 Agenda the human rights of all migrants must be protected, respected and fulfilled at all times, regardless of migration status and across all stages of the migration cycle.
- Expanding safe, regular and orderly pathways for migration, underpinned by a better understanding of both the drivers and structural factors that compel and will compel people to move can help accelerate inclusive growth, strengthen decent work, bridge labour gaps and foster sustainable development while adjusting to the increasingly complex human migration and displacement dynamics being affected by climate, conflicts, digitalization and urbanization.
- The 2030 Agenda, the GCM and the SG Action Agenda on Internal Displacement are the blueprints for Member States and all other stakeholders to realize development priorities through well-managed migration; to deliver on the promise of migration in a way that benefits all and truly leaves no one behind.
- Underpinning these messages is the urgent need to address the specifics of gender, age and diversity in order to achieve safe, orderly and regular migration, and this must be reflected in policy and practice.

