



**Major Group for  
Children and Youth**  
the space for children and youth in the United Nations

## GFMD Youth Forum 2021 Outcome Documents

### Thematic RT 4: Addressing Gaps in Migrant Protection

Priority 1: Challenges leaving their country of origin
<p><b>Description:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational resources, health resources during the pandemic - access to rights of migrants - sports and recreation activities so the migrant can integrate to the community</li> <li>• UNICEF created information and resources for migrants leaving Venezuela - services they can find across the route &amp; documents needed.</li> <li>• IOM Egypt - smuggling of people leaving Egypt to Europe - awareness migrants initiative (regional level) capture stories that had experiences of irregular migration and translate to many languages to be approachable - campaigns of testimonial videos of Egypt migrants to Greece and Italy and had to come back for the minimum standards of living - life-saving boats to promote safe migration and offer positive alternatives to regular migration.</li> <li>• Engaging law enforcement officers about seeing migrants as ordinary people, not criminals.</li> <li>• Establishing facilities that provide economic opportunities to migrants</li> <li>• Gaps in information circulation between migrant and humanitarian organizations/government agencies</li> <li>• Informal education</li> </ul>
<p><b>Location:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NGOs in Tijuana directly linked to migrant's necessities in the US</li> <li>• Regional LAC initiative</li> <li>• IOM Egypt</li> <li>• UNICEF</li> </ul>
<p><b>Leadership:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth-focused organizations</li> <li>• International organizations</li> <li>• UNICEF</li> <li>• Portugal</li> <li>• IOM</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunity:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integration into the host community - partnership with local organizations</li> </ul>

- Partnership with international organizations working in the migrant/refugee sector
- Partnership with Immigrations Department - Law enforcement that migrants are victims and not criminals
- Capacity building workshops so migrants can have potential access to sustainable living
- Create different channels of communications so migrants can access updated resources - networks of people - collaborate with NGOs

### **Stakeholder type:**

- Local organizations
- International organizations
- Immigration Departments
- Law Enforcement Officers
- Judiciary

### **Request for next step:**

- (Centroamérica) Application of human rights - including intersectionalities that make migrants face discrimination and seek protection: focus on education, associative rights, political rights and make visible them according to their voices matter.
- Informal education.
- Artistic project and more initiatives to change the narrative.
- Explore the role of youth organizations as a bridge to provide information to migrants
- Support migrant communities to gather and share their experiences at all stages of migration (origin, transit, destination)

## **Priority 2: Challenges during transit**

### **Description:**

- Maternity Care access in different languages, health access, sexual health.
- Football tournaments for the communities living in Egypt
- App launched called "compass" to map the services in many languages
- Send messages during COVID in different aspects.
- Partnership with private sector companies for launching mobile clinics so migrants can access health services.
- 6. Translate information into different languages
- Social enterprises provide income-generating opportunities for migrant
- Mental health
- Engage the communities regularly to understand their needs during the crisis
- Monitor misinformation and help stop the spread of rumours.

For more information, visit <https://www.unmgcy.org/youth4migration>

<p><b>Location:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Europe (regional NGOs)</li> <li>• Egypt</li> </ul>
<p><b>Leadership:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional NGOs.</li> <li>• La Liga - Mission 89</li> <li>• Egypt</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunity:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to information during the pandemic - people that are going to be vaccinated (regular migrants, irregular) - think about vaccination campaigns</li> <li>• Income-generating opportunities for migrants</li> <li>• Addressing child marriage</li> <li>• Addressing growing trafficking in the Venezuelan context</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stakeholder type:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local communities</li> <li>• Faith-based organization</li> <li>• Social enterprises</li> <li>• Health sector</li> </ul>
<p><b>Request for next step:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting the use of non-discriminatory language and making sure as youth we don't use discriminatory language 1.2. advocate with the government to change the term from illegal to irregular/undocumented (this last part was specifically in the context of Malaysia and Bangladesh)</li> <li>• Engage the local communities that are receiving migrants</li> <li>• Faith-based organization eg Catholic society working to prevent child marriages among Rohingya refugees</li> <li>• Social enterprises that can provide income-generating opportunities for migrant</li> <li>• Health sector providing health services to migrants</li> </ul>

Priority 3: Challenges in host communities and countries
<p><b>Description:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to adequate housing</li> <li>• Language training</li> <li>• Access to the labour market</li> <li>• Proper training of migrants on the asylum and migration processes in the host community and how they can go about it.</li> <li>• Access to education opportunities</li> <li>• Legislation should be flexible to the certain situation of migrants and refugees eg access to healthcare</li> <li>• Initiatives piloting and scaling community-based alternatives to immigration detention that provide access to housing, justice, services (such as health) and regularization in Europe, AsiaPac, Central America and Southern Africa</li> <li>• The pandemic has created the risk of being further criminalized when entering the country without a Covid test - there are some countries in which entering without a Covid test is a criminal offence and therefore a justification to further criminalize irregular migrants</li> <li>• Criminalising policies are a huge challenge and are not challenged by host communities as a consequence of inadequate narratives, racism and xenophobic perception of migrants</li> </ul>
<p><b>Location:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Malaysia</li> <li>• Egypt (regional level)</li> <li>• Europe, Asia Pac, Central America and Southern Africa - Malaysia (some alternative to detention for children)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Leadership:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community-based organization</li> <li>• Civil society, governments and UN agencies</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunity:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognizing the skills and experiences of migrant and open access to the labour market</li> <li>• In South American countries, advocacy efforts, from different actors, should be strong enough to avoid the stigmatization of migrants and guarantee their regular access to host countries in the upcoming months, there's a risk that migration policies become more restrictive and do not consider a protection approach and therefore a need and opportunity for us to focus on advocacy efforts</li> <li>• Integration, education and having information at hand is an opportunity for migrants to integrate</li> <li>• Improving access to regularization schemes</li> </ul>

- Focus on campaigns towards changing narratives, racism and xenophobic stereotypes

**Stakeholder type:**

- Non-governmental organization
- Community-based organizations
- Government agencies
- Health Sector (doctors)
- Education sector

**Request for next step:**

- Nurture partnerships with diaspora organizations that can provide a link throughout their experiences at different steps of the migration journey (country of origin, transit and host communities)
- Gather insights on successful initiatives and interventions to avoid stigmatization of migrants, challenge criminalizing policies and change narratives
- Explore initiatives to ensure access to education and to information.
- Accelerate efforts to guarantee protection for children by focusing on alternative care