



GFMD  
Mayors  
Mechanism

# LOCALIZING THE GLOBAL COMPACTS

First Report on Local Action  
for Migrants and Refugees  
2022



Co-steered by



In partnership with





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# ABOUT

## The Mayors Mechanism — Co-Steered by UCLG, MMC, and IOM

In December 2018, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the Mayors Migration Council (MMC), and the UN Migration Agency (IOM) came together to establish a formal entry point to bring the voices, experiences and policy asks of local and regional governments (LRGs) to the State-led Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). Together, they created the Mayors Mechanism of the GFMD with the aim to catalyze smarter, bolder global action to make migration work for all.

In its first three years, the Mayors Mechanism built a robust partnership which piloted new methods to mobilize local action to meet global goals and secured more direct and equal access for LRGs to the GFMD than ever before.

The partnership is now scaling its proven model to other State-led migration and forced displacement fora and launching a Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees in partnership with the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR).

## The Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees

Local and regional governments are at the heart of migration and forced displacement governance. It is at the local level where we see pragmatic, principled, and people-centered approaches that meet or exceed global goals, such as the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM), the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs).

Recognized by the UN Secretary General, the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees aims to capture this political commitment and vast practical experience<sup>1</sup> It will:

- Expand the number of LRGs publicly endorsing the Compacts through the Marrakech Mayors Declaration.

- Collect and showcase LRGs' actions that achieve or exceed the Compacts' goals, submitting those actions and pledges to the official UN online platforms and reviews.

- Create a cohort of LRG leaders engaged in robust GCM and GCR implementation to motivate scaling and investment in local practices by States, and form new partnerships with international actors.

The Call to Local Action is a collaborative effort between the [Mayors Mechanism](#) steering committee members – [United Cities and Local Governments](#) (UCLG), the [Mayors Migration Council](#) (MMC), and the [UN Migration Agency](#) (IOM) – and is executed in partnership with the [UN Refugee Agency](#) (UNHCR). It is supported by additional affiliated partners and city networks.

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Photo: Local integration center for migrants in Barranquilla, Colombia. Credit: Alcaldía Distrital de Barranquilla

# INTRODUCTION

*Local governments are central actors – and visionary leaders – in addressing migration and forced displacement issues. Every day, local governments around the world are taking pragmatic, people-centered actions that create the conditions for migrants, forcibly displaced people, and communities to thrive. This local action means national success against global goals.*

Migration and forced displacement are primarily urban phenomena. More and more migrant and displaced communities look to cities for opportunity and safety – with 70 percent of the world’s forcibly displaced people seeking refuge in urban areas<sup>2</sup> and one in five international migrants moving to just 20 global cities.<sup>3</sup> The move towards urban centers is internal as much as it is international. Over 50 percent of the world’s population lives in urban areas right now. This will rise to nearly 70 percent by 2050.<sup>4</sup>

In the face of this urbanization, the vital role of local and regional governments (LRGs) in setting and in implementing migration and forced displacement policy cannot be denied or understated.

It is local governments and the mayors and executives who lead them that deal with the realities of migration and displacement on a daily basis. While national governments manage borders and visa regimes, LRGs are often responsible for the most important direct needs of migrants and refugees – whether that is housing, education, healthcare, or employment.

LRGs are laboratories where solutions to these pressing challenges are being tested and replicated. In the face of significant financial constraint, limited legal mandates, and challenging political environments, local leaders are responding with bold vision and pragmatic action. They are providing inclusive solutions that serve all regardless of migratory status with the aim of building equitable, vibrant communities. As the level of government closest to the people, LRGs also have a unique expertise and ability to articulate new solutions to emerging issues – from providing migrants and refugees with access to care during COVID-19 to welcoming people displaced by conflict and the climate crisis.

Local leaders are increasingly being acknowledged as partners and migration governance actors in their own right. In 2016,

with the adoption of the New York Declaration, UN Member States recognized for the first time the role of cities as first receivers of migrants and refugees and agreed to strengthen cooperation with LRGs.<sup>5</sup> They also committed to develop a Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration (or Global Compact for Migration, GCM).<sup>6</sup>

*“ The Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees is one more demonstration of the relevance of local solutions for the achievement of the Global Goals triggering the localization of SDGs. ”*



**Emilia Saiz**  
Secretary General,  
UCLG

Adopted in 2018, the GCR and GCM set ambitious international goals on migration governance and refugee protection and accelerate progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As with the Paris Climate Accord, a global group of mayors seized upon the negotiation of the Compacts to push for bold, ambitious goals to be included in the final drafts. These mayors were often ahead of their national governments’ positions, proposing more progressive positions on access to services regardless of status, legal identity, and protection of vulnerable migrants. Their investment paid off and the priorities of LRGs and their vital role going forward was reflected in both Compacts.

Mayors further demonstrated their commitment and endorsed the Marrakech Mayors Declaration “Cities Working Together for Migrants and Refugees” – pledging to advance the GCM and GCR in unison, to continue to participate internationally, and to take direct

*“ Local and regional governments play an undeniable role in meeting the Global Compact for Migration. Connecting the Call to Local Action to our GCM review and pledging systems is a win-win for States to show success and the UN system to show impact. ”*



**Antonio Vitorino**  
Director General,  
UN Migration Agency

action within their communities to improve the lives of migrants and refugees.<sup>7</sup>

To elevate the continued political commitment and vast practical experience of LRGs to meet or exceed the GCM and GCR, the **Mayors Mechanism in partnership with UNHCR is launching a Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees and issuing this report on Localization of the Global Compacts.**

**In this inaugural report, we are showcasing 70 actions from local governments that contribute to the GCM and GCR.**

Recognized by the UN Secretary General in his 2022 Report on the GCM, the Call to Local Action creates a global repository of LRG commitments to meet UN goals and provides a mechanism to expand and support new LRG actions.<sup>8</sup> It offers a marketplace of locally-led solutions ready to be scaled or replicated through city-to-city cooperation or mechanisms such as the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees (GCF) established by Mayors Mechanism partners to address the unmet needs of cities as they support migrants, refugees, and IDPs in the face of pressing challenges, from global pandemics to the climate crisis.<sup>9</sup>

*“ From implementing local housing projects to sheltering those displaced, and ensuring their access to schools and other critical social services, cities are at the helm in creating open, inclusive, and supportive environments for refugees and IDPs. The Call to Local Action builds on this momentum, and we hope more cities will join this movement as we prepare for the 2023 Global Refugee Forum. ”*



**Filippo Grandi**  
High Commissioner,  
UN Refugee Agency

This document is the first report on the Call to Local Action and efforts to localize the GCM and GCR, which LRGs will deliver to the first-ever global review of the GCM – the 2022 International Migration Review Forum (IMRF). The Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees is an on-going and iterative program of the Mayors Mechanism and our partners, following the model of robust local efforts to localize the SDGs and achieve the Paris Agreement.<sup>10</sup> A next report will be produced in advance of the upcoming global review of GCR implementation – the 2023 Global Refugee Forum.

*“ The Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees is more than a repository of city actions to deliver the Global Compacts. It’s also a marketplace of solutions ready to be scaled by donors through the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees. ”*



**Vittoria Zanuso**  
Executive Director,  
Mayors Migration  
Council

This report provides an overview of:

- What the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees is and how LRGs can join.
- How the Call to Local Action meets the GCM, GCR, and SDGs.
- LRGs’ progress building more inclusive multilateral governance of migration and forced displacement.
- LRG submissions to the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees.
- Recommendations for the future.

As the world reels from the shocks of the pandemic, refugee crises in Ukraine and Afghanistan, and the worsening climate breakdown, there is a window of opportunity to change business-as-usual. The efficient and inclusive responses of local and regional governments to support migrants and refugees in the face of global crises will not only help those in urgent need now but will allow local and global leaders to build communities that are more equitable, vibrant, and resilient in the future.

Join us in supporting the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees. Together, we can help local leaders help migrants and refugees and turn local action into global impact.

# JOIN THE CALL TO LOCAL ACTION FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

## What Is the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees?

The [Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees](#) is the pathway for the localization of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) and Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and for local and regional governments (LRGs) to be recognized for meeting global goals.

A collaborative effort of the Mayors Mechanism Steering Committee – United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the Mayors Migration Council (MMC), and the UN Migration Agency (IOM) – executed in partnership with the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees is an ongoing effort to:

- **Expand the number of LRGs publicly endorsing the GCM and GCR** through the Marrakech Mayors Declaration.
- **Collect and showcase bold, people-centered local actions** that achieve or exceed the GCM and GCR to facilitate cross fertilization, peer learning, and replication.
- **Create a cohort of publicly recognized LRG leaders** engaged in robust GCM and GCR implementation to motivate scaling, investment, and new local-national-global partnerships.

## What Does Joining Mean for Local and Regional Governments?

By joining the Call to Local Action, LRGs commit to implement the GCM and GCR while realizing the SDGs. In turn, LRGs receive:

- **Recognition:** Mayors and local executives' political leadership is recognized in the growing global movement of LRGs committed to the Marrakech Mayors Declaration.
- **Knowledge:** LRGs get regular updates about global processes on migration and forced displacement and opportunities for peer-learning and capacity development.
- **Access and visibility:** Submitted actions are elevated to three official intergovernmental stocktaking processes: the GCM, GCR, and the GFMD Platform for Partnerships; providing a one-stop process for LRGs to share their actions across official State-led reporting systems.
- **Influence:** By submitting an action, LRGs are showcased across official intergovernmental meetings and summits, including quadrennial International Migration Review Forum and Global Refugee Forum, and the annual Global Forum on Migration and Development.

## What Local Actions Count?

The basis of this call is to support the [Marrakech Mayors Declaration](#), endorsed by mayors and local government executives in 2018.

The Declaration calls for the full and formal recognition of the transformative role that LRGs play in the implementation of the GCM and the GCR and their engagement to fulfil both Compacts in unison. These frameworks are rooted in and provide a path for achieving the SDGs by ensuring rights-based migration and forced displacement governance.

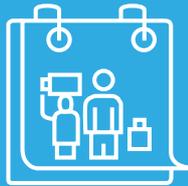
In the Marrakech Mayors Declaration, LRGs commit to advance several priority areas:

Improving local migration and forced displacement governance



Minimizing the drivers of forced migration and displacement

Protecting those most vulnerable



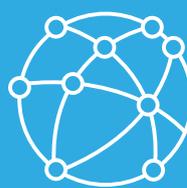
Providing access to urban infrastructure, social services, and education regardless of status

Realizing social inclusion



Eliminating all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse

Supporting reception and advance community sponsorship initiatives



Engaging in regional and multilateral partnerships and increase city-to-city cooperation

## HOW CAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS JOIN?

### STEP 1

**SIGN** the Marrakech Mayors Declaration, adding your political endorsement to the Global Compacts

### STEP 2

**SUBMIT** your action, showcasing how you are meeting or exceeding the Global Compacts

### STEP 3

**LEARN** through our capacity development and peer-learning initiatives

Join the movement of local leaders making a global impact!  
Add your voice at [localaction.mayorsmechanism.org](https://localaction.mayorsmechanism.org).



# HISTORY OF LOCAL LEADERSHIP ON GLOBAL GOALS

*In 2018, the UN adopted two new global frameworks for migration and forced displacement. Local governments are recognized as indispensable partners in the realization of both frameworks and, since 2018, have played an ever-greater role in global governance discussions on migrants and refugees.*

## Global Frameworks

By 2016, the scale of population movements and the need for better responses to migration and forced displacement featured prominently on the international agenda. This prompted the adoption of the New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants by UN Member States, and a commitment to develop the GCR and the GCM. In the New York Declaration, Member States recognized — for the first time — the role of cities as first receivers of migrants and refugees and agreed to strengthen cooperation with LRGs as part of these efforts.

The Global Compacts were developed over 18 months through separate but complementary processes involving governments, UN agencies, civil society organizations, the private sector, and migrant and refugee-led organizations themselves. Notably, LRGs were not yet among the official stakeholder groups invited to contribute through formal channels.

Adopted in 2018 and reviewed every fourth year, the GCM and GCR set ambitious international goals on migration governance and refugee protection and accelerate progress towards the achievement of the SDGs.

## Global Compact for Migration

The GCM is the first-ever intergovernmental negotiated UN agreement on a common approach to managing international migration.

It is based on a collective realization that no single government can effectively govern migration alone — whether fully realizing the potential of global mobility or protecting people from the most pernicious aspects of migration — without cooperation.

The GCM defines 10 guiding principles and 23 objectives covering all aspects of migration (“360-degree” approach). Each objective has an array of possible actions, drawn from best practice, that States and stakeholders are encouraged to implement to achieve the objective. While not legally binding, the GCM’s guiding principles, objectives, and actions find their root in established obligations and principles, underpinned by the SDGs and international human rights law.

## Global Compact on Refugees

The GCR is a framework for more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing, recognizing that a sustainable solution to refugee situations cannot be achieved without international cooperation. It provides a blueprint for governments, international organizations, and other stakeholders to ensure that host communities get the support they need and that refugees can lead productive lives. The GCR explicitly links forced displacement to the SDGs and works to ensure the inclusion of refugees and forcibly displaced people in efforts to achieve the SDGs.

The four objectives of the GCR are to: Ease the pressure on host communities; Enhance refugee self-reliance; Expand access to third country solutions; Support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.

## GCR, GCM, and the SDGs

In 2015, UN Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity. Integrating 17



SDGs, it represents a multilateral consensus between governments and a diversity of actors to work together towards a more egalitarian society in which no one is left behind.

**The GCR and GCM complement global efforts to promote sustainable development and explicitly link to the SDGs. When States and stakeholders implement the GCM and GCR, they are directly supporting achievement of the SDGs.**

Both the GCR and GCM support SDG targets

across all 17 Goals, ensuring migrants and refugees are not left behind. The GCM, in particular, is a direct outcome of the commitment of *SDG Target 10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular, and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies*. Together, these global frameworks recognize that LRGs of every continent are at the forefront of managing the impact of migration and forced displacement and promoting inclusive, safe, and sustainable societies.

## LRGs in the Global Compacts

As with the Paris Climate Accord, a group of global mayors seized upon the negotiation of the Global Compacts to lead from the front and push for bold, ambitious goals to be included in the final drafts, often ahead of their national governments' positions.

During the consultations of the GCR, mayors and local leaders called on UNHCR and Member States to "open up discussion on refugee policy and operations to municipalities from around the world that are receiving refugees."<sup>11</sup> During the negotiation of the GCM, LRGs developed common positions and met directly with the Member States leading the Compact's drafting.<sup>12</sup>

Because of this dedicated and targeted LRG diplomacy, the fundamental issue of non-discriminatory access to services regardless of migration status was retained in the final GCM text. Additionally, the role of LRGs in the implementation, follow-up, and review of the Compacts was formally recognized in both the GCM and the GCR. This recognition opened greater access for LRGs to global migration and forced displacement governance than ever before.

In the GCM, LRGs are recognized as key actors to advance all of the GCM's objectives, particularly related to reducing vulnerabilities and safeguarding human rights, providing safe access to basic services regardless of migration status, facilitating integration, and preventing all forms of racism or xenophobia and other forms of discrimination. One of the GCM's bedrock guiding principles is the whole-of-government approach, asserting that "all sectors and levels of government" are necessary "to develop and implement effective migration policies and practices."<sup>13</sup>

In the GCR, the essential role that local governments and city networks play as first responders is recognized. The text acknowledges that, as local services providers, LRGs are well-positioned to identify and respond to refugees and host communities' particular needs, encourage integration and self-reliance, and promote access to livelihood opportunities towards the realization of the GCR.

Upon the adoption of the Compacts, mayors further demonstrated their commitment and endorsed the [Marrakech Mayors Declaration "Cities Working Together for Migrants and Refugees"](#) – pledging to advance the principles and objectives of the GCM and GCR in unison, to continue to participate internationally, and to take direct action within their communities to improve the lives of migrants and refugees.

The Marrakech Mayors Declaration was endorsed by 150 city leaders gathered together at the 5th Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration, and Development in December 2018, taking place on the sidelines of the official Conference to Adopt the GCM.

## Building More Inclusive Multilateralism

Since Marrakech, LRGs and their networks have achieved outstanding progress getting a seat at the table of global migration and forced displacement governance discussions.

From being in a position at the periphery just a few years ago, mayors and LRGs are increasingly recognized for delivering solutions, driving progress, and asserting political will in support of migrants and refugees. LRGs now provide a critical perspective that, until recently, was missing in the international deliberations that determine the way that migration and forced displacement issues are governed.

However, while LRGs bring important insight into what migration and displacement issues look like on the ground and how policies play out in practice, barriers for local leaders to engage in and influence the conversations remain. This includes discussion on how policies are shared, issues are addressed, and where funding is directed.

## Global Forum on Migration and Development

Created in 2007, the [GFMD](#) brings together governments and policy makers in the largest informal, non-binding, government-led process on migration and development. The GFMD plays a vital role in fostering dialogue and building trust between actors, and serves as a platform to drive forward local, national, regional, and global responses. Formal mechanisms to include the voices and expertise of diverse stakeholders include the GFMD Civil Society Mechanism, the Business Mechanism, Youth Platform, and the Mayors Mechanism.

In the 2017 GFMD Summit in Berlin, local governments who participated in the Fourth Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration and Development in Berlin, were invited to share their perspectives in the Summit. This marked an important 'rapprochement' between local governments and the GFMD following years of dedicated advocacy from LRGs and the organizers of the annual Mayoral Forum.

The following year, as they were simultaneously adopting the GCM and GCR, the GFMD Member States authorized the creation of the Mayors Mechanism to formally engage LRGs in the future.

# MILESTONES

## 2015

- States adopt SDGs

## 2016

- States adopt New York Declaration, recognizing LRGs as first receivers of migrants and refugees

## 2018

- States adopt GCM & GCR, recognizing LRGs as partners
- LRGs endorse GCM & GCR in Marrakech Mayors Declaration
- Mayors Migration Council founded
- Mayors Mechanism of GFMD established, forging partnership between UCLG, MMC, and IOM

## 2019

- Frist Global Refugee Forum, LRGs welcomed in a side event
- Mayoral Forum for Migration and Development moved officially within the GFMD
- Mayors Mechanism pilot tests Call to Local Action, collecting local GCM/GCR pledges

## 2020

- GFMD fully mainstreams the Mayors Mechanism, giving LRGs more access to global migration governance discussion than ever before
- LRGs invited to first regional GCM reviews

## 2021

- 200+ LRGs share best practices to meet GCR
- Mayors join High Level Officials Meetings to review GCR progress
- Mayors Mechanism renews partnership and expands scope

## 2022

- UN Secretary-General recognizes “instrumental role” of LRGs in GCM implementation
- LRGs participate in first-ever International Migration Review Forum
- Mayors Mechanism Launches Call to Local Action for Migration and Refugees, creating pledging platform for LRGs to meet the GCM and GCR



Photo: Freetown, Sierra Leone. Credit: iStock viti

Co-steered by the three partners —UCLG, the MMC, and the IOM — the Mayors Mechanism provides LRGs with opportunities for peer-to-peer learning and exchange; establishes a platform for LRGs to interact with States, civil society, and the private sector; and provides avenues to bolster innovative LRG solutions through efforts like the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees.

The 2020 GFMD hosted by the Government of Ecuador marked the first-time cities had formal access to and influence in a State-led process on global migration. Eighty mayors and representatives from over fifty cities or regions convened at the conference, where a commitment was made to closely consult and involve local authorities in future GFMD processes and activities.

The Mayors Mechanism continued to expand its activities and partnership directly with States, contributing to the GFMD Ad Hoc Working Group on COVID-19 and co-chairing the GFMD Ad Hoc Working Group on Public Narratives on Migration with the Governments of Canada and Ecuador. The Working Group on Narratives marked the first-ever time a stakeholder group was authorized to take a leadership role in GFMD activities.

The result is the It Takes a Community, a social media campaign that promotes positive stories of migration and social inclusion gathered in communities across the world.<sup>14</sup> The campaign is a multi-stakeholder initiative implemented with national governments, local governments, businesses, civil society, and international organizations to highlight how migrants and their fellow community members are working together to make

the places where they live and work more productive, innovative, and welcoming.

Continuing to bring LRGs to the heart of the GFMD, the Mayors Mechanism secured more equal access than ever before to the 2021 GFMD hosted by the UAE. More than 90 representatives from 48 LRGs and city networks participated, including formal roles in the majority of the Summits' events.

LRGs shared their responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and called for national governments to improve or establish local-national policy coordination mechanisms, ensure adequate legal and budgetary mandates for cities to protect migrants, and change international funding and financing mechanisms to improve cities' access to urgently needed resources to better serve their communities.

Since 2021, the Mayors Mechanism partnership is adapting its successful approach to the GFMD to other State-led migration and forced displacement fora related to the GCM and GCR.

### GCR Implementation and Review

UNHCR's Global Refugee Forum (GRF) and High-Level Officials Meeting (HLOM) serve as regular global reviews of the GCR to assess progress and translate the principles of the GCR into action.

### Global Refugee Forum

The GRF brings together States, local governments, refugee representatives, and other relevant actors every four years to track progress towards the GCR and generate new pledges and contributions.

At the first-ever GRF in 2019, more than 1,400 pledges were made, including financial assistance, new inclusive national policies, and investment in clean energy and infrastructure. LRGs — including Durban, Bristol, Milan, Sao Paulo and others — submitted their own pledges in line with the GCR and participated in a side event. Hosted by the Mayors Migration Council, the Government of Switzerland, and the refugee-led G-100 network, the side event provided an entry point for LRGs officials to access the GRF as a distinct and significant stakeholder group. This session offered a first-step to continue to strengthen the recognition of LRGs in the implementation of the GCR and to model LRG inclusion for future GCR review meetings.

### High-Level Officials Meeting

The HLOM is held by UNHCR every two years after the GRF to take stock of progress and challenges towards the GCR and maintain momentum.

The first HLOM was held in 2021. In preparation, 210 LRGs from all over the world participated in a stocktaking session in September 2021 to discuss their contributions to achieving the GCR and provide recommendations to the HLOM.<sup>15</sup> The session was co-hosted by the Global Task Force on Migration, the Mayors Mechanism, and other partners. In November 2021, the City of Zurich participated in an HLOM Preparatory Roundtable on Partnerships and pledged to host a mayor-led meeting at the 2023 Global Refugee Forum.<sup>16</sup> Building on this momentum, Emilia Saiz, Secretary General of UCLG, and the Mayor of Gaziantep, Turkey, participated in the official program of the 2021 HLOM, elevating the role and priorities of LRGs.<sup>17</sup>

### GCM Implementation and Review

To support the implementation, follow up, and review of the GCM, Member States established the UN Network on Migration, and committed to conduct regular Regional GCM Reviews, and an International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) every four years.

### UN Network on Migration

The UN Network on Migration, coordinated by IOM, aims to support UN System-wide support to Member States to implement the GCM.

LRGs and their organizations have been actively engaging and deeply collaborating across the Network's activities. The Mayors Mechanism and UCLG are members of the Network's working group 2.1 on Stronger UN System for GCM implementation and 2.2 on GCM national implementation plans. The MMC is also a member of the Thematic Priority

Group 4 on climate change and migration.

The MMC also serves as an inaugural Steering Committee Member of the UN Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund, a financing mechanism to support GCM implementation projects. As a representative of LRGs, the MMC successfully advocated for the Fund's Operations Manual to explicitly include city-level projects as one of the targets for project selection and helped direct over \$10M towards projects with a city focus.

### Regional Migration Reviews

The GCM called for regular [Regional Reviews](#) of implementation progress starting in 2020 to inform the IMRF.

In 2020 and 2021, supported by the Mayors Mechanism, LRGs actively have participated in the five Regional Reviews on the GCM organized in Europe and North America; Arab States; Africa; Asia Pacific; and Latin-America and the Caribbean. City networks have also been active participants in the reviews, with UCLG and Cities Alliance organizing a side event together for the Inclusion and Integration of Migrants in the African Review.

### Secretary-General's Report

The UN Secretary General is mandated by the General Assembly to provide a biennial report on the status of GCM implementation.

The Mayors Mechanism prepared a joint submission to the Secretary General's 2022 Report. As a result, the Secretary General's Report asserts that local governments play an "instrumental role" and "must be seen as allies in efforts to promote and implement the Compact. The Report also directly acknowledges the Mayors Mechanism Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees as an important advancement to localize global goals.<sup>18</sup>

The Mayors Migration Council Executive Director, Vittoria Zanuso, moderated the launch of the Secretary General's Report at the UN General Assembly, promoting the Call to Local Action and a Mayors Mechanism-led joint LRG statement in response to the Report.<sup>19</sup>

### International Migration Review Forum

The IMRF is the primary intergovernmental global platform to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the GCM with States and stakeholders. Starting in 2022, the IMRF will occur every four years under the auspices of the President of the UN General Assembly and result in a Progress Declaration adopted by the General Assembly.

Supported and mobilized by the Mayors Mechanism, LRGs and city networks have actively engaged in the inaugural IMRF's preparatory process including the IMRF Thematic Dialogue Series, written contributions to the Progress Declaration consultation process, as well as two virtual dialogues with UN Member States missions: one with the UN Member State Missions in Geneva, in collaboration with the Geneva Cities Hub, and one with the co-facilitators of the Progress Declaration and Member State Missions in New York.

As part of [UN Migration Week](#) in February 2022, the Mayors Mechanism and the Secretariat of the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments (GTF), jointly organized a Briefing on the IMRF, where members, the UN Network on Migration and partners of the GTF were invited to gather, exchange and consolidate the vision and expectations of the LRG constituency on the road to the IMRF.

To support the Call to Local Action and IMRF preparation, UCLG hosted a first peer learning session on migration and displacement from 11–13 April 2022, called “Migration & Displacement in Contexts of Crisis: What are LRGs doing to save and protect lives?” This learning sought to expand the tools available at the local level to address migration and forced displacement emergencies effectively, inform the LRG constituency of the IMRF, and to finetune LRG messages ahead of the IMRF.

The Mayors Mechanism issued background papers on each of the IMRF's four thematic clusters, providing a snapshot of local action and policy recommendations under each cluster.<sup>20</sup> Additionally, the UN Network on Migration's Thematic Group on Climate will issue a “Baseline Mapping on the Implementation of Commitments related to Addressing Human Mobility Challenges in Disaster and Climate Change Contexts under the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM),” inclusive of an urban dimension following input from the C40-MMC Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration.

At the 2022 IMRF itself, the Mayors Mechanism mobilized a delegation of mayors and local government officials from cities across the globe to participate and share their perspectives and expertise. This report and the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees will launch at an official side event of the of the IMRF, bringing together mayors, national governments, and other stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, and UN Agencies.

## Sustainable Development Goals

### High Level Political Forum

The annual High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) is the main platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs.

In the 2021 HLPF Ministerial Declaration, Member States reaffirmed the importance of facilitating orderly, safe, regular, and responsible migration and recognized the positive contributions of migrants to inclusive growth and sustainable development. Ministers acknowledged that the COVID-19 pandemic has undermined LRGs' capacities to provide basic services and committed to empowering LRGs to take ownership of the SDGs and promote innovative partnership with LRGs through a whole-of-government approach.<sup>21</sup>

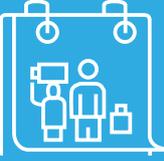
Facilitated by the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, with input from the Mayors Mechanism, LRGs called on the HLPF to promote multi-level governance, strengthen their role and resources, and include their participation at the decision-making tables. LRGs reiterated their commitment to rebalancing the narrative on migration, implementing local actions towards rights-based migration governance, and localizing all universal development agendas.<sup>22</sup>

### Voluntary Local and Subnational Reviews

LRGs and their associations have made great efforts to expand SDG localization through [Voluntary Local and Subnational Reviews](#) (VLRs), modeling the Member State Voluntary National Review process. Through VLRs, local governments can showcase inclusive practices for the integration of migrants and refugees, in line with the GCM and GCR.

Each HLPF, Voluntary Local-Subnational Review Days are also organized to provide a space for exchange, mutual learning, and common reflection for all governments and stakeholders engaged in advancing the localization, monitoring, and reporting of the SDGs.

The HLPF Ministerial Declaration highlights VLRs as valuable tools to show progress and foster exchange in the local implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Over the past two years, the number of VLRs worldwide has doubled. National governments are starting to see a natural ally for their own implementation, monitoring, and reporting efforts in the local reviews. It is critical to increasing LRGs' involvement in the VNR processes and upscale local and subnational reporting.

Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees Themes		GCM Objectives	GCR Focus Areas	SDG Commitments
	1. Improving local migration and forced displacement governance	Objective 23	Para 17–19 Para 33–44 <u>Focus Area:</u> Responsibility Sharing	Goal 17
	2. Minimizing the drivers of forced migration and displacement	Objective 2		Goals 1, 2, 3, 13, 16, 17
	3. Protect those most vulnerable	Objective 7		Goals 1, 5, 8, 10, 16, 17
	4. Providing access to urban infrastructure, social services, and education regardless of status	Objective 15	Para 66 <u>Focus Area:</u> Health Education Energy & Infrastructure	Goals 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 16
	5. Realize social inclusion	Objective 16	Para 97–199 <u>Focus Area:</u> Jobs & Livelihoods Solutions	Goals 10, 11, 16, 17
	6. Eliminating all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse	Objective 17		Goals 8, 10, 16, 17
	7. Support reception and advance community sponsorship initiatives	Objective 7 and 15	Para 37 <u>Focus Area:</u> Solutions	Goals 1, 5, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 16, 17
	8. Engaging in regional and multilateral partnerships and increase city-to-city cooperation	Objective 23	Para 38 <u>Focus Area:</u> Responsibility Sharing	Goal 17

*Actions submitted to the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees will contribute to better management of migration and forced displacement at the local level, in line with all the Global Compact for Migration's objectives and guiding principles and the Global Compact on Refugees' objectives and focus areas, both of which enable the achieve of the Sustainable Development Goals.*

# LOCAL-GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS SPOTLIGHT

## LOCALIZING GOVERNANCE

### Local Migration Governance Indicators Framework

In 2018, IOM created the [Local Migration Governance Indicators](#) (Local MGI) to support LRGs to take stock of the migration policies and strategies they have in place and to foster the dialogue between national and local governments. Based on 80+ indicators, this is a voluntary and consultative process that offers local governments an opportunity to have an introspective look at the policies, programs, and structures they have in place to manage migration.

Since its inception, more than 50 local governments worldwide have applied the Local MGI, many of which used the exercise to inform the development of policies and capacity-building activities. For example, in Sao Paulo, Brazil, the Local MGI served as a basis for the development of the 2021-2024 Municipal Plan for Immigrant Policies, that directly aligns to the GCM, GCR, and SDGs and which the city has submitted as a pledge to the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees. In Johannesburg, South Africa, and Dublin, Ireland, the exercise will feed into the reviewing of the policy on the integration of migrants and the integration and intercultural strategy (2021-2025), respectively.



## LOCALIZING FINANCE

### Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees

The [Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees](#) (GCF) responds to the unmet needs of cities as they support migrants, refugees, and internally displaced people (IDPs) in the face of pressing challenges. By directly funding cities to implement programs of their own design, the GCF builds precedents of fiscal feasibility in city governments that are often disregarded by donors with low risk tolerance.

The GCF is led by the MMC in partnership with five key Strategic Partners: C40 Cities, IOM, UCLG, UN-Habitat, and UNHCR. Each Strategic Partner provides on-the-ground technical and coordination support to city grantees, advises on the development of a pipeline of projects, and amplifies the GCF's impact globally.

The inaugural chapter of the GCF, the Global Cities Fund for Inclusive Pandemic Response (GCF:IPR) supports 10 cities with contributions from the Open Society Foundations and the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation. Building on this initial phase, the MMC partnered with the Robert Bosch Stiftung to create a new chapter of the GCF, the Global Cities Fund for Inclusive Climate Action (GCF:ICA), announcing five African cities as its first recipients at the IMRF, along with new contributions from the IKEA Foundation to add five additional grantees that will be announced later in the year.

As of May 2022, the GCF has raised \$4.5M+ in direct funding for 20 city governments improving the lives of 20,000+ migrants, displaced, and marginalized people and building a pipeline that can be scaled to fund more cities in more regions.

*Local governments are not in it alone. The partners of the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees have each established dedicated tools to support and stand with local governments as they serve migrant and refugee communities.*

## LOCALIZING CAPACITY

### UCLG Peer Learning Exchanges for the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees

As a lead Call to Local Action partner, UCLG is working to build local GCM and GCR capacity with a multifold toolbox for individual and collective LRG learning. This toolbox will bring together resources, experiences, and methodologies from across Call to Action partners and beyond for LRGs' use and learning. Beyond enabling legal frameworks, enhanced local action for migration and forced displacement requires local capacity — resources, skills, and knowledge — to connect territorial realities to global goals. Peer learning between LRGs stands out as an effective, pragmatic, and accessible methodology that works as a multiplier and enhancer of local policies, as demonstrated by the Localization process of the 2030 Agenda.

Through Peer Learning, the Call to Local Action will expand the impact of local action to address migration and forced displacement emergencies effectively and sustainably, but also to strengthen coordination across territories and levels of government. Building on the challenges and positive experiences accumulated by UCLG members and partners, the Peer Learning axis of the Call to Local Action will address concrete interests of LRG and other local actors with a view to identify, share and disseminate experiences and knowledge for capacity building and advocacy, towards fostering better policy coherence and international cooperation to achieve a safe and dignified human mobility for all.



Photo: View to the historical city center of Sfax in Sfax, Tunisia. Credit: iStock Dmitry\_Chulov

## LOCALIZING PARTNERSHIPS

### Mediterranean City-to-City Migration Project

The **Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM)** project reflects cities' central role in the integration of migrants. Initiated in 2015 by the UCLG, the International Centre of Migration Policy Development, and UN-Habitat, the project brings together city leaders, public officials, and multi-disciplinary experts from 22 participating cities across North Africa, Middle East and Europe. The MC2CM project aims to support mutual learning through peer-to-peer dialogue between city stakeholders, improve access to quality data and analysis through the development of City Migration Profiles, and promote conditions for equal access to services for migrants through the implementation of selected pilot projects.

## LOCALIZING POLICY

### Refugee Inclusion Toolkit

In April 2022, the UNHCR and the Migration Policy Group, released a new toolkit entitled "**Effective inclusion of refugees: Participatory approaches for practitioners at the local level.**"

The toolkit provides step-by-step practical guidelines and communication materials for the running of integration and inclusion practices, helping local actors to build participatory approaches in their respective towns. It focuses on the design, monitoring and evaluation of such practices, including through the provision of guidance on eliciting feedback from beneficiaries and of indicators for measuring progress, assessing impact, and adapting when required. Specifically, the toolkit is aimed at public authorities and services at the national and local level, civil society organizations including refugee-led organizations, faith-based organizations, educational institutions, and business actors.

# CALL TO LOCAL ACTION:

## By the Numbers

This 2022 inaugural report on Localizing the Global Compacts brings forward:

 **70** local actions that make a tangible difference in the lives of migrants and refugees, while keeping the world on track to meet commitments set out in the GCM and GCR.

 **47** commitments from LRGs and their associations, representing **33** countries.

 **40** local actions that expand access to services to migrants and refugees.

 **19** local actions that serve migrant and refugee children and youth.

 **29** local actions that expand employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for migrants and refugees.

 **16** local actions that address the impact of the climate crisis on migration and displacement.

 **24** local actions that offer humanitarian or financial assistance to migrants and refugees in times of crisis.

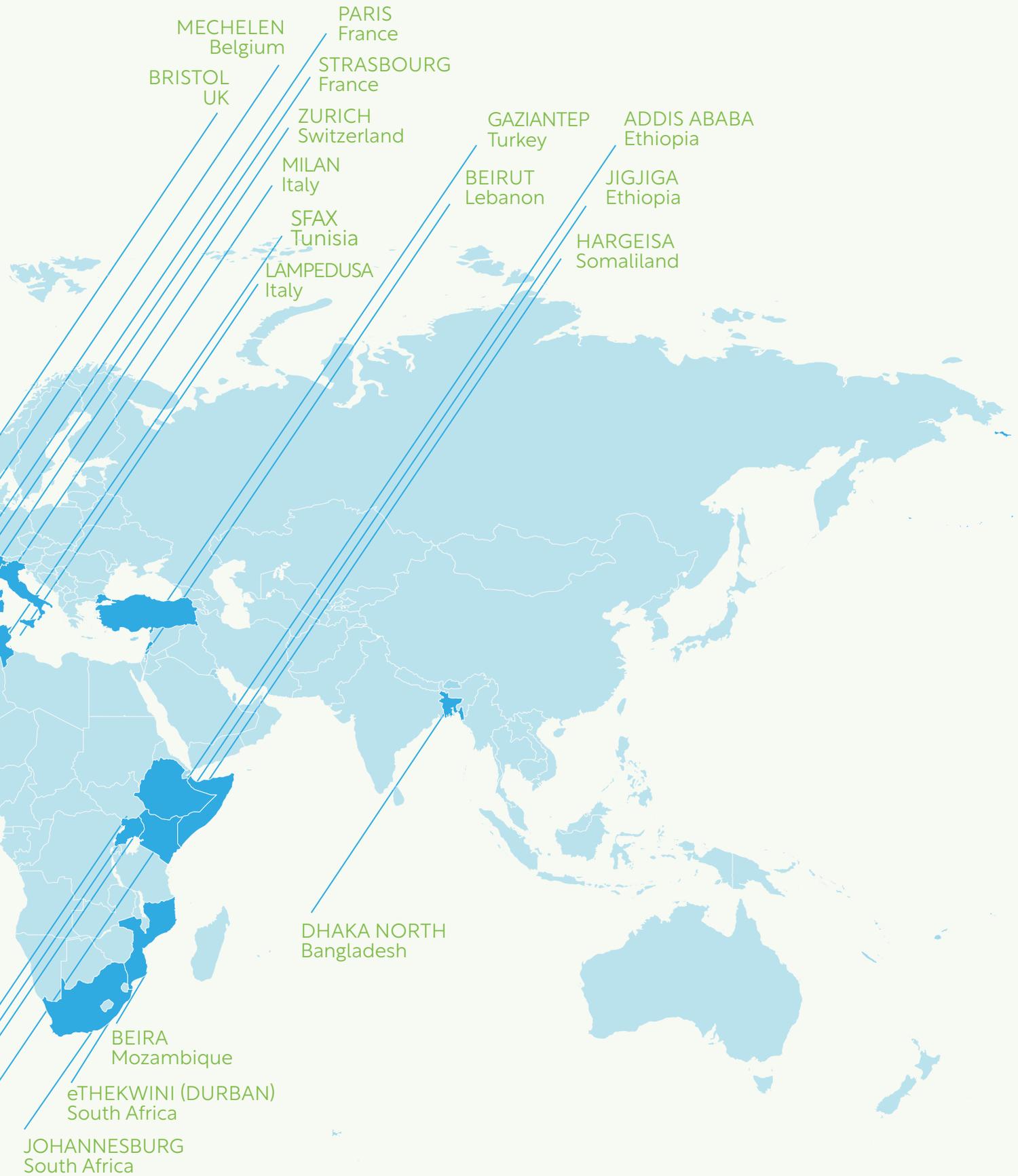
 **37** local actions that improve city governance, accountability, and responsiveness to migrant and refugee communities.



Photo: Aerial view from cableway of houses and mountains in the city of Medellín. Credit: IStock Rudimencial

# CITIES





# CALL TO LOCAL ACTION 2022 SUBMISSIONS

Local and regional governments are leading the way to implement the GCM and the GCR, and by doing so achieve the SDGs. They are committed to take local action that has global impact.

**With this inaugural report of the Call to Local Action, LRGs bring over 60 local actions that make a tangible difference in the lives of migrants and forcibly displaced people, while keeping the world on track to meet global commitments.**

Each LRG submission below showcases a bold, people-centered local action. From providing undocumented migrants with job training and placement, to welcoming refugee children fleeing Ukraine, to preparing for the impact of climate on displaced people — each action offers a pragmatic local solution to a global challenge.

By sharing these highlights of local level progress so far, this report hopes to inspire more LRGs and partners to take action or share their innovations. This Report will be issued annually, adding new submissions collected through the Call to Local Action each year. The next iteration will be issued ahead of the Global Refugee Forum in 2023.

Join this localization movement by submitting your action or supporting local-led action!

## ACCRA

Ghana

Mayor: Elizabeth Kwatsoo Tawiah Sackey

**TITLE:** Reducing Climate Vulnerabilities of Migrants in Accra

**DURATION:** Jan 2022 – Jun 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** The Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) commits to reduce migrants' vulnerabilities to climate change. Through this project, AMA will generate evidence on migrants' presence in the city's informal economy, strengthen the resilience of the informal sector to the impacts of climate change, and improve the working conditions of migrants engaged in informal waste management. To achieve this commitment, first, AMA will collect and analyze disaggregated data on migrants' profiles from three neighborhoods where many migrants residents (Old Fadama, Cable and Wireless, and Shiabu). Second, AMA will facilitate migrants' financial inclusion and access to healthcare by connecting them to formal waste management employment opportunities. Third, AMA will construct an infant care facility, providing care for babies, toddlers, and young children. This project will relate to AMA's ongoing implementation of its Inclusive Climate Action Program. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## ADDIS ABABA

Ethiopia

Mayor: Adanech Abiebie

**TITLE:** Providing IDPs of Addis Ababa's Koyefeche Settlement with Clean Water & Entrepreneurship Support

**DURATION:** Oct 2021 – Oct 2022



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** The City of Addis Ababa commits to provide access to critical water infrastructure to IDPs through the "Water Supply and Entrepreneurship for IDPs" project. Through this project, the city addresses immediate public health needs among 1,200 IDP households living in Koyefeche, an IDP settlement constructed by the Addis Ababa City Administration, helping them cope with future stresses. The city will improve access to water through new water mains, while also providing entrepreneurship training and financial assistance to residents interested in starting new businesses. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## ARUA

Uganda

Mayor: Wadri Sam Nyakua

**TITLE:** Improving Refugee's Participation in City Planning & Access to Public Services in Arua

**DURATION:** May 2019 – Ongoing



**TITLE:** Strengthening the Capacity of Arua to Sustainably Manage Waste & Promote Institutional Greening

**DURATION:** Jul 2022 – Jun 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** The City of Arua commits to improve the representation and participation of urban refugees and migrants in their governance processes. Through the project “Strengthening Mechanisms for Receiving, Managing and Integrating Involuntary Migrants within the Municipal Council,” Arua’s Municipal Development Forum (MDF) at a city level and Division Development Forums (DDF) at the sub-city level, will be reorganized to improve the coordination of and social accountability towards community structures and stakeholders. The forums will provide a platform for dialogue, identification of community needs, and acting on community preferences, including migrant and refugee communities. This project is supported by the Cities Alliance’s Global Programme on Cities and Migration.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** The City of Arua commits to employ refugees and migrants to establish the first city government-run recycling facility in Uganda, focused on sorting, collecting, and recycling plastics. It will also increase carbon capture through greening public institutions by introducing environmentally sustainable practices and curricula in schools, health centres, and other public institutions. This includes planting trees and other greenery outside schools, hospitals, and faith-based organizations. To support this transition to a greener economy, the city will train migrants and refugees to work in both the recycling and landscaping sectors. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## BARCELONA

Spain

Mayor: Ada Colau

**TITLE:** A Humanitarian Bridge Between Barcelona & Ukraine: A New Instance for “Ciutat Refugi”

**DURATION:** March 2022 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** The City of Barcelona commits to welcoming and integrating newly arrived persons, including providing access to municipal services and programs regardless of legal status. In 2015, the city launched the “Barcelona, Ciutat Refugi” plan to welcome, support, deliver necessary assistance and safeguard refugees’ human rights. The plan includes establishing a permanent support structure for refugees complementary to the state program, protecting vulnerable asylum seekers who are excluded from the state program or experiencing any form of discrimination, and advocating for the implementation of the international commitments regarding refugees via city networks. In 2022, the city updated the plan by adding a “Barcelona for Ukraine” phase to coordinate the action of social organizations and volunteers to support the reception of Ukrainian refugees in Barcelona.

## BARRANQUILLA

Colombia

Mayor: Jaime Pumarejo Heins

**TITLE:** Barranquilla's Center for the Local Integration of Migrants

**DURATION:** Dec 2019 – Ongoing



**TITLE:** Todos Somos Barranquilla – Opportunities Center

**DURATION:** February 2021 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Barranquilla commits to improve migrants' livelihoods, safeguard their rights, and facilitate safe access to formal employment and health and education services to foster inclusion and public safety for all inhabitants of the District of Barranquilla. The city has established and will continue to support a Local Integration Center for Migrants as a one-stop-shop to coordinate the services offered by the city government, national government, and international organizations targeting migrants, refugees, and IDPs, mainly of Venezuelan origin. The three main objectives of the center are to: 1) Establish a renowned and permanent space for migrants' support, assistance, and orientation, and disseminate the center's offerings to five District localities in coordination with civil society leaders, local and international NGOs and UN agencies, and private sector organizations. 2) Ensure the socio-economic and cultural integration of migrants and refugees by securing their access to services, humanitarian assistance, and the labor market. 3) Strengthen Barranquilla's migration policy and governance as a benchmark at the national and international level.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Barranquilla commits to expand its "Todos Somos Barranquilla" project to realize socio-economic inclusion of migrants and refugees through access to services and employment opportunities. Established in 2021, *Todos Somos Barranquilla* offers a comprehensive suite of services to 100 clients, providing them with specialized vocational training, psychosocial support, legal documentation support, and direct access to over 90 of Barranquilla's employers. Focused on Venezuelan refugees but open to all, clients include women, youth, victims of armed conflict, and persons living with disabilities. Delivered through the city's Opportunities Center, the project ensures that its participants have a safe and secure livelihood within the city's formal economy, paving the way for a stronger and more inclusive overall workforce within the city of Barranquilla. Now ending its pilot phase, the city will expand Todos Somos Barranquilla as a permanent program of its Opportunities Center. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

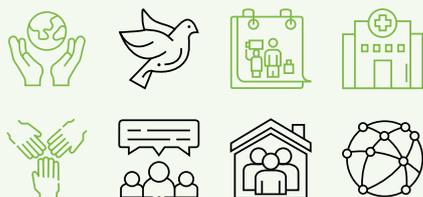
## BEIRA

Mozambique

Mayor: Albano Carige António

**TITLE:** Reducing Climate Vulnerability of Displaced Persons in Beira's Praia Nova Area

**DURATION:** July 2022 – June 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Beira commits to support the dignified relocation and reintegration of displaced communities forced to leave their home due to the impacts of climate change. Multiple coastal storms have badly damaged the Praia Nova area of Beira, once a key fishing hub. The city government will transform the 20 de August fish market into a temporary shelter for those families of Praia Nova that have lost or had their homes damaged by extreme climate events. At the same time, the city government will relocate 100 families to a safer area of the city and provide them with land ownership and livelihood support to aid their reintegration into safer areas of Beira. This project will lead the way for the broader voluntary, and dignified resettlement of all Praia Nova families to safer locations in Beira. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## BEIRUT

Lebanon

Mayor: Jamal Itani

**TITLE:** Municipality of Beirut Mobile Health Clinic

**DURATION:** April 2021 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Beirut commits to bring health care services closer to those in need, including migrants and refugees. In partnership with UN-Habitat Lebanon, the city government has purchased and deployed the city's first Municipal Mobile Health Clinic, which provides free and non-discriminatory COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and other basic medical services to individuals otherwise unable to access them. The Mobile Clinic goes where it is needed most, focusing on neighborhoods with a high percentage of refugees, migrants, and vulnerable Lebanese severely impacted by the August 4, 2020 port explosion. The city government directly engaged migrant, refugee, and marginalized Lebanese communities and international and local NGOs to identify the best use cases and locations for the Municipal Mobile Health Clinic. Beirut is committed to build on the experience of the Mobile Health Clinic to continue delivering flexible services to vulnerable communities while strengthening its accountability toward all of Beirut's residents. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

*“This project comes as part of our continuous efforts to respond to the challenges and opportunities of migration, looking to support all inhabitants during this difficult time in our city’s history. We are happy to announce that the Beirut Mobile Health Clinic is reaching the neighborhoods where it is needed the most and providing crucial healthcare to those who would otherwise be left behind.”*

Jamal Itani  
Mayor of Beirut, Lebanon



Photo: Beirut’s Mobile Municipal Health Clinic serving marginalized communities. Credit: UN-Habitat Lebanon

## BOGOTÁ

Colombia

Mayor: Claudia López Hernández

**TITLE:** New Advisor for Migratory Affairs of the Mayor’s Office of Bogotá

**DURATION:** Feb 2022 – Dec 2023



**TITLE:** Bogotá’s Nutrition Reception Center for Migrant & Refugee Children & Mothers

**DURATION:** July 2022 – June 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Bogotá commits to foster migrants’ and refugee’s social, economic, and cultural integration and improve their access to services. The project actions address Bogotá’s inefficient service provision to migrant and refugee populations in the city, which is often focused on humanitarian assistance and delivered individually by separate local government institutions. The initiative will start with streamlining the service portfolio based on an improved understanding of the migrant population, and regularizing migrants under the Temporary Protection Statute for Venezuelan Migrants (ETPV). Further, the Mayor’s Office, with support from the World Bank, has established the Advisory Office for Migratory Affairs to offer regularized migrants a full portfolio of services focusing on employment, health, education, culture, among others. Through strategic institutional actions, the office will work together with the private sector, international cooperation, and civil society to protect the human rights of migrants, reduce poverty, and foster development in the city.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Bogotá commits to establish a “Nutrition Reception Center for Migrant and Refugee Children and Mothers”, ensuring food security for vulnerable migrant and refugee populations in the city with a focus on young children, pregnant women, and breastfeeding mothers. The Nutrition Reception Center will be the first of its kind operated by the city through the District Secretary of Health and the District Secretary of Social Inclusion with private sector and international cooperation. The center will serve as Bogotá’s main service delivery point for outreach activities, food distribution, and case management and referral pathways for migrant and refugee children and their caregivers. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.



Photo: Pedestrians cross at the Old State House in Boston. The building dates from 1713. Credit: iStock SeanPavonePhoto

## BOSTON

United States  
Mayor: Michelle Wu

**TITLE:** Boston's Dreamers Fellowship  
**DURATION:** April 2022 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Boston has established and commits to deliver a Dreamers Fellowship, a leadership development and work preparedness program for the city's undocumented migrant youth. The city has partnered with ten local migrant-serving non-profit organizations and two public schools to provide more than 450 young "Dreamers" with leadership development, work-readiness experience, and mentoring. Each Dreamer also received an average stipend of \$1,500 for their participation. The fellowship provides critical hands-on work experience and mentorship for professional growth to Dreamers who have limited access to programs that are essential to their economic and social inclusion.

**TITLE:** Boston's Immigrant Professionals Fellowship  
**DURATION:** Summer 2021 – Jan 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** In a direct effort to address racial and economic disparities in the healthcare field, Boston implemented a pilot program to provide ten talented, diverse, and multilingual immigrant professionals from Africa and the Caribbean with training, career coaching and placement with local hospitals for a three-month paid fellowship. The initiative aims to reduce regulatory and degree validation barriers that keeps foreign-trained health professionals from working in their careers in the United States. Often these individuals are unemployed or underemployed. The longer immigrants work in unrelated industries, the more difficult it becomes for them to break into the healthcare industry.

Boston commits to continue the program as a response to the healthcare industry's active interest in attracting highly qualified immigrant candidates with healthcare experience who can not only bring their training and knowledge, but also improve cultural and linguistic competencies of the world class standard of care for which Boston is renowned.

**TITLE:** Boston's Immigrants Lead Boston (ILB) Program

**DURATION:** January 2020 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Boston commits to empower immigrant leaders and encourage shared, equitable civic ownership. The Immigrants Lead Boston (ILB) program of the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Affairs invites emerging immigrant leaders to participate in a multi-session course that will foster knowledge, skills, relationships, and practices in the art of politics. Participants will build on their capacities to exchange useful resources, knowledge, and connections with the city government and with their communities, to critically engage in policies and programs addressing their needs, and to promote the issues most important for them and their communities. Through the program, young immigrants will gain a better understanding of city government departments, services and how to take part in local politics, while city officials gain insights into issues and areas relevant for Boston's immigrants.

**TITLE:** Increasing Immigrants' Legal Access Through Immigrant-serving Community-based Organizations in Boston

**DURATION:** Aug 2021 – Oct 2022



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Boston's strategy commits to provide grant funding to immigrant-led and immigrant-serving organizations to hire culturally competent attorneys, hire paralegals/case coordinators, and pay for the Department of Justice (DOJ) accreditation training process. This approach allows immigrants to utilize the services of known and trusted CBOs that provide culturally competent and language-accessible legal services. Moreover, the DOJ accreditation allows these CBOs to provide immigration legal services in-house. To date, funding under the pilot phase has provided support to three CBOs to provide services to their own community based on linguistic needs predominant in the City of Boston - one Haitian Creole-serving, one Brazilian Portuguese-serving, and one Spanish-serving.

**TITLE:** Mental Health Mini-Grants for Immigrant Bostonians

**DURATION:** Feb 2021 – Nov 2022



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** To enhance the wellness of immigrants in Boston, destigmatize mental health challenges, and encourage non-clinical, culturally and linguistically sensitive practices as a form of therapy, Boston awarded Mental Health Mini-Grants of \$6,500 each to six immigrant-serving non-profit organizations who incorporate wellness activities in their programming and commits to continuing this program. Non-clinical mental health practices are defined as peer-led and community-based interventions engaging with expressive arts, traditional medicine, spirituality, or body-centered activities. Examples include peace circles, storytelling, yoga, and meditation. These practices can promote well-being and reduce the potential escalation and severity of mental health conditions of immigrants, and act as alternatives to Western individual talk therapy.

As part of the grant, Boston commits to conduct an exploratory assessment to learn from each of these six programs to help guide the city's future investments on mental health for immigrants.

## BRAGA

Portugal

Mayor: Ricardo Rio

**TITLE:** Local & Regional Governments' Pledge for Children Displaced by the Conflict in Ukraine

**DURATION:** March 2022 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Braga, amongst other Local and Regional Governments (LRGs) in Europe, commits to welcome children and their families without any discrimination while building its local capacities to accommodate, support, include, and protect children and young people based on their evolving needs and vulnerabilities. With the UNICEF Child Friendly Cities Initiative, Braga and partner cities assert: "They will treat [Ukrainian children] as our own because they are their own. A child is a child, and we want all children and youth to belong, to bring out their best, and to contribute to their communities". Through its eight objectives, the LRG Pledge for Children Displaced by the Conflict in Ukraine aims to support the EU Temporary Protection Directive. Through this pledge LRGs are stepping up to welcome refugee children and families into their homes, their schools, and their communities.

## BRISTOL

UK

Mayor: Marvin Rees

**TITLE:** Bristol's Effort to Improve Governance, Service Delivery, & Protection of Migrants & Refugees  
**DURATION:** 2019 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** In 2019, Bristol joined the pilot phase of the Call to Local Action and committed ensure inclusive economic integration and development of migrants and refugees, prevent and counter discrimination and xenophobia, and improve local governance of migration and forced displacement. Among other efforts, key actions included establishing a cross-city Taskforce on Migrant Inclusion with other UK cities, developing a local communications campaign promoting inclusive local identity and preventing discrimination and xenophobia, and establishing bespoke programs to facilitate refugee entrepreneurship local business and civil society. In response to the COVID crisis, Bristol took more than 300 homeless people into emergency accommodation. Within this group were several migrants with “No Recourse to Public Funds” status, which prevents them from accessing mainstream State support. Bristol therefore set up a “One City Task Force” made up of representatives from Local Government, civil society, and others to identify the necessary support and longer-term pathways for everyone in emergency accommodation, including migrants and those seeking asylum.

## COTO BRUS

Costa Rica

Mayor: Steven Alberto Barrantes Núñez

**TITLE:** Coto Brus' Local Migration Governance Indicators Process  
**DURATION:** Nov 2021 – Sept 2022



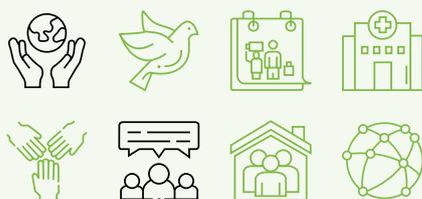
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Coto Brus commits to develop a Municipal Migration Policy, the first of its kind in Costa Rica. The development of this policy is supported by the Local Migration Governance Indicators Process (Local MGI), which Coto Brus participated in from 2021-2022. The objective of this process is to gain a better understanding of the policies, programs, and structures in place to manage migration, identify areas with good practices as well as areas that could be further developed, and establish priorities based on these findings. One of the key benefits of embarking in this the Local MGI Process, is that it contributes to the strengthening of local governments institutional capacities to manage migration by providing accurate and timely data to develop evidence-based policies and interventions.

## DHAKA NORTH

Bangladesh

Mayor: Md Atiqul Islam

**TITLE:** Livelihoods Improvement of Urban Poor Communities Project in Dhaka North  
**DURATION:** July 2018 – June 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Dhaka North commits to improve livelihoods access and overall condition of climate-affected IDPs from rural areas who move to poor urban settlements in search of jobs and economic opportunities. The “Livelihoods Improvement of Urban Poor Communities Project” (LIUPCP) project aims to achieve sustainable economic growth and reduce urban poverty. Key project actions include: developing community-based climate-resilient infrastructure; providing skills training to foster employment and entrepreneurship; delivering conditional food support, health and nutrition awareness to women, including pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers; providing education and education grants to stop early marriage and drop out from school, and enhancing urban poor organizational capability and effective voice to facilitate their integration in the city.

## DÉDOUGOU

Burkina Faso

Mayor: Karim Kondé

**TITLE:** The School, A Beacon of Hop for IDP Students in Dédougou  
**DURATION:** Oct 2021 – Sept 2024



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Dédougou commits to keep IDP children in school. The capital of the Boucle du Mouhoun region, Dédougou has a total population of 124,000 inhabitants distributed in 37 administrative units and seven districts. To counteract terrorist attacks in ten villages outside Dédougou preventing children from attending school, the city transferred students from these villages to city schools to continue their education and obtain psychological, material, and financial support to meet the challenges faced by this vulnerable group.

## ENTEBBE

Uganda  
Mayor: Fabrice Rulinda

**TITLE:** Employing Migrants & Refugees to Protect Namiiro Wetland in Entebbe  
**DURATION:** Jan 2023 – Dec 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Entebbe commits to providing job training and employment to migrants, refugees, and other marginalized communities living around Namiiro Wetland through the development and implementation of a wetland restoration plan. Along with establishing by-laws and demarcating Namiiro Wetland as protected land, Entebbe will train migrants, refugees, and marginalized Ugandans to restore the degraded wetlands and foster their protection while promoting Entebbe as an ecotourism destination on the banks of Lake Victoria. This project will both encourage climate mitigation strategies in metropolitan Entebbe and support migrants, refugees, and marginalized Ugandans to access sustainable green jobs. This is a pipeline project of the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees

## eTHEKWINI (DURBAN)

South Africa  
Mayor: Kenneth Mxolisi Kaunda

**TITLE:** Insight-driven Response to Homeless Migrant & Displaced Populations in eThekweni  
**DURATION:** Jan 2023 – Dec 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** eThekweni (Durban) commits an insight-driven response to the unmet social and economic needs of undocumented migrant and displaced populations living in situations of homelessness. Focused on improving documentation and access to social services, the project follows a three-phased approach. Phase One will focus on a comprehensive point-in-time survey to gauge current needs and numbers of the target population. Phase Two will include the development of eThekweni's "CARE" database – a self-registration platform that will be connected to existing local drop-in centers distributed across the city. Phase Three of the project will be the roll-out of the CARE program, which will facilitate the registration of refugees and asylum-seekers at the city-level, providing them with unique identification codes they can use to access critical city services, such as access to healthcare, education, food and non-food items, temporary shelter, and livelihoods programs. This is a pipeline project of the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## ESTEBAN ECHEVERRÍA

Argentina  
Mayor: Fernando Gray

**TITLE:** Renewal of the Programme to Promote Human Rights for Migrants & Refugees in Esteban Echeverría  
**DURATION:** March 2019 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Esteban Echeverría commits to provide a comprehensive program of services for migrants and refugees, renewing the municipality's program to safeguard the right of migrants' and refugees' facing adverse socio-political conditions. The program has three main components: documentation, supporting diaspora associations, and social-cultural integration activities. In coordination with the National Directorate of Migration and the National Registry, the municipality organizes workshops to promote rights where migrants can apply for a residence permit, renew their personal identification cards, obtain legal advice, and receive information on electoral participation. The municipal government also encourages social and cultural activities with the active participation of migrant and diaspora associations to strengthen inclusion, bringing communities together so they can share customs and feel at home in Esteban Echeverría.

## FREETOWN

Sierra Leone  
Mayor: Yvonne Aki-Sawyer

**TITLE:** Freetown Waste Micro-Enterprise Project  
**DURATION:** July 2019 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Freetown commits to provide green livelihood opportunities for migrant, refugee, and marginalized youth living in informal settlements while improving waste management throughout the city. In 2021–2022, the city's "Waste Management Micro-Enterprise Program" expanded to 40 new entrepreneurial teams to deliver waste collection services within informal settlements and to other Freetown residents. This builds on gains made by 80 existing waste management micro-enterprises supported by the Freetown City Council (FCC). Through this expansion, the city ensures that more youth living in informal settlements, the majority of whom are rural migrants, access the opportunity to jointly improve their livelihoods. Project clients are provided with initial business investment support that includes a motorized tricycle cart, sanitation tools, business registration, training, and business development mentoring. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees. To sustain and scale the Global Cities Fund initial investment, FCC directly funded fifty percent of tricycles purchased, allowing the city to continue to reach the most vulnerable Freetonians while creating a cleaner, greener Freetown for all.

*“Freetown belongs to everyone who has chosen this city as their home. All residents, including migrants, have a role to play in helping our city emerge from this pandemic more equitable, more sustainable, and more prepared for the future. The Global Cities Fund is a crucial component to helping all Freetonians reach this goal.”*

**Yvonne Aki-Sawerr**  
 Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone  
 MMC Leadership Board Member



Photo: Freetown's Waste Management Entrepreneurs Tricycles. Credit: Freetown City Council

## FUENLABRADA

Spain  
 Mayor: Javier Ayala

**TITLE:** Fuenlabrada Plan: City of Peace  
**DURATION:** March 2022 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Fuenlabrada commits to receive and integrate migrants and refugees. At the outset of the Ukrainian conflict, the city government drafted the “Fuenlabrada Plan: City of Peace” to be prepared to receive and integrate people fleeing the conflict. The plan has two main components: 1) a first reception stage which involves delivering critical assistance, including registration services, education and health care services, psychological support, language learning, legal advice, and support for gender-based violence victims; and 2) a second integration stage, which involves employability and skills development, access to sports and culture, and services targeting migrants with disabilities. The plan, through La Caixa Foundation, connects foster families with the national temporary protection information services. To date, the city has welcomed over 100 Ukrainians, established three Spanish language groups for young people with 50 adults learning Spanish, and four psychological support groups.

## GAZIANTEP

Turkey  
 Mayor: Fatma Şahin

**TITLE:** The Gaziantep Social Cohesion Model  
**DURATION:** January 2016 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Gaziantep remains committed to the integration of Syrian refugees. Taking a humanitarian approach based on social justice and human rights, the city works with UN Agencies, NGOs, INGOs, public entities, to implement the Gaziantep Migration Model’s (GMM) migration policy. The GMM’s policies will contribute to ensuring the common welfare of refugees and host communities. As part of the GMM, the city has established Turkey’s first Migration Management Directorate to lead the refugee response program of the city, ensuring no one is left behind. The GMM’s policies are based on ensuring the common welfare of refugees and host communities.

## HAHO

Togo

Mayor: Sefenu Yawovi

**TITLE:** Haho's Initiative to Support Pastoralism & Livestock Mobility to Foster Social Cohesion

**DURATION:** August 2018 – August 2019



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Haho took action to strengthen the integration and social cohesion of migrant, displaced, and marginalized communities within the city. Haho attracts many ethnic groups from surrounding rural areas, which sometimes leads to social tension and violence within the city. To address these tensions, Haho's project activities are grouped into two components. One component aimed to improve economic inclusion and market sustainability for pastoralists arriving to Haho, including setting up market management committees and coordinating with other nearby city governments to manage 86 km of mobility corridors, grazing areas, and water ponds in the plateau region. The second component involved the organization of multi-stakeholder debates focused on farming and livestock mobility challenges in West Africa with the participation of local authorities, state service providers, development organizations, herders, and farmers.

## HARGEISA

Somaliland

Mayor: Abdikarim Ahmed Moge

**TITLE:** Resettlement & Resilient Livelihoods for Daami IDPs in Hargeisa City

**DURATION:** Jan 2023 – Dec 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Hargeisa commits to work with the Daami community, an informal settlement of internally displaced persons in a flood-prone area of Hargeisa, to relocate 100 households to safer areas of the city. Each household who decides to participate in the resettlement program will receive land ownership and housing in parts of the city more closely connected to public services and job opportunities, allowing them greater security of tenure and access to services while moving them out of harm's way. In addition, Hargeisa will provide interested heads of households with resources to start their own businesses, including business grants and direct cash assistance, with a focus on women headed households. This project will eventually lead to the closure of the Daami settlement, allowing the city to turn it into a public park available to all residents. This is a pipeline project of the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## JIGJIGA

Ethiopia

Mayor: Abdifatah Ibrahim Ismael

**TITLE:** Inclusive Climate Action in Jigjiga

**DURATION:** Jan 2023 – Dec 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Jigjiga commits to supporting the livelihoods of IDPs and rural-urban migrants in and around the city through inclusive climate actions. The city government will implement a project to revitalize the city's agricultural systems by rehabilitating dry valley production, including tree planting, water management, and infrastructure upgrading, as well as agricultural livelihoods trainings for IDP households. The city will also engage in participatory land planning to develop Community Action Plans, with a focus on building resilience to climate shocks for communities with a high presence of IDPs and migrants. This project is a pipeline project of the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## JOHANNESBURG

South Africa

Mayor: Mpho Phalatse

**TITLE:** Climate Change Response for Migrants, Refugees, and IDPs

**DURATION:** July 2022 – June 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Johannesburg commits to improve the food security of migrants, refugees, and IDPs living in situations of homelessness by connecting them to existing urban agriculture programs throughout the city. The project will focus on migrants, refugees, and IDPs currently living in one of Johannesburg's three shelters, enrolling interested clients into accredited trainings on topics related to urban farming, such as aquaponics and rooftop gardens. While the trainings will be conducted by Johannesburg's civil society partners, project clients will work alongside clients from the receiving community and will have access to farmable land provided by the city of Johannesburg. The project brings vulnerable migrants, refugees, and IDPs into Johannesburg's existing livelihoods and urban farming programs, providing them with an opportunity for stable income generating opportunities while improving the overall food security, environmental sustainability, and social cohesion of Johannesburg. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## KAMPALA

Uganda

Mayor: Erias Lukwago

**TITLE:** Kampala for All: Safety Nets for Recovery

**DURATION:** April 2022 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Kampala commits to execute the “Kampala for All: Safety Nets for Recovery” project to offer immediate relief and an opportunity for sustainable economic recovery for over 200 vulnerable individuals and families at a time when livelihoods, support systems, and resources have been severely impacted by COVID-19 measures. In direct partnership with a refugee-led organization, Makasi Rescue Foundation, the project will provide refugees, migrants, and the urban poor with direct financial assistance and entrepreneurship support. This project will fall within the remit of the Kampala for All humanitarian assistance coordination forum and will include knowledge-sharing engagements with other Ugandan cities to build a long-term resilience strategy through knowledge and burden-sharing. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## KOBOKO

Uganda

Mayor: Sanya Wilson

**TITLE:** Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework CRRF: Inclusive Urban Development & Mobility in the Municipality of Koboko

**DURATION:** Dec 2021 – Aug 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Koboko commits to continue the municipality’s local implementation the “Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF): Inclusive Urban Development and Mobility.” The CRRF aims to strengthen the inclusion and participation of displaced persons and refugees in the economic and social life of the municipality, improve the livelihoods, and offer greater access to quality basic services such as education and health for refugees and the host population in Koboko.

## LAMPEDUSA

Italy

Mayor: Salvatore Martello

**TITLE:** Lampedusa Peace Walk & Yearly Tribute of Migrant Lives Lost in the October 3, 2013 Shipwreck

**DURATION:** February 2018 – Ongoing



**TITLE:** Transforming the Loran Military Base into an International Center for Peace & Migration Studies in Lampedusa

**DURATION:** February 2018 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Each year, on October 3 (the anniversary of when 368 migrants heading to Europe drowned at sea in 2013), survivors, civil society organizations, and national and European authorities meet on the island of Lampedusa to pay tribute to those lives lost and call for a renewed migration framework for all. In 2021, on October 3, Totò Martello, Mayor of Lampedusa and UCLG leaders joined forces with families of victims and students from across Europe in Lampedusa to call for memory and dignity as the basis for transforming norms and making migration work for all. The commemoration included the inauguration of the “Peace Walk,” which marks a symbolic turning point towards a joint municipalist effort to promote human rights-based approaches to human mobility as part of the Lampedusa Charter Process. Lampedusa commits to continue to champion these approaches with the active support of the “Snapshots from the Border” project, led by 35 partners, local border authorities, and civil society organizations.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Lampedusa commits to become an epicenter for the holistic study and planning of peace and migration flows. With this project, the City of Lampedusa and Linosa will transform the former military base of Loran into an Academic Peace Study Center capable of hosting major events and engage international institutions, volunteer networks, and geopolitics research, art, and culture institutes. The project will be led by Lampedusa and Linosa local governments in collaboration with the Sicilian Region and the Ministries of Culture and Defense. Furthermore, the project involves the development of additional facilities on the island, including an auditorium; a digital archive to store works on large migration flows and their correlation to climate change and poverty; and a system of laboratories, research facilities and dormitories for researchers and artists working on migration. In spring 2022, a letter of intent for the project was signed between the Municipality of Lampedusa and Linosa and the Region of Sicily.

*“It is time that the Ugandan Refugee Act is revised to include urban refugees.”*

**Sanya Wilson**  
Mayor of Koboko

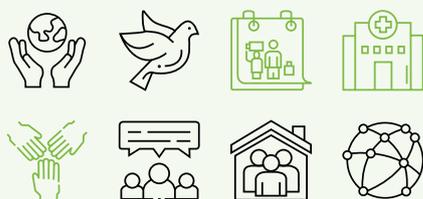
## MEDELLÍN

Colombia

Mayor: Daniel Quintero Calle

**TITLE:** Housing Assistance for Migrant & Displaced Families in Medellín

**DURATION:** Oct 2021 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** In 2021, Medellín expanded an existing housing assistance program to benefit over 200 migrant and displaced families with three months paid accommodation. At the same time, the city improved these families' access to the city's suite of social, legal, health, and employment services.

Now, following the successful pilot phase, Medellín commits to: 1) Expand the strategy for temporary accommodation of migrants, refugees, returnees and host populations. 2) Develop a city government-wide strategy which centralizes the city's offering to migrants and refugees, including a specific focus on opportunities for durable solutions and local integration. 3) Raise awareness of city services specifically for migrant and refugee communities while ensuring that city secretariats reduce barriers to access. 4) Involve refugee and migrant associations in local decision-making processes, including allowing their participation in Community Action Boards. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## MECHELEN

Belgium

Mayor: Alexander Vandersmissen

**TITLE:** Youth Work for All in Mechelen

**DURATION:** March 2021 – February 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Mechelen commits to implement the “Youth for All” project to support migrant and refugee youth and strengthen the youth movement in the city. Not every family finds its way easily to youth work, and the youth movements of Mechelen are not yet a reflection and representation of the diversity in the city. Mechelen's Youth Service has taken up the challenge to change this working with the youth movements and their associations. The project is targeted at families with a migration background and/or a refugee story and youth movements to support their outreach to migrant and refugee communities and to set up their own diversity policy. The main objectives of the project are: guiding new members with a migration background sustainable towards youthwork; supporting youth associations regarding diversity, inclusion and accessibility; and raising awareness of the added value of youthwork.

## MEXICO CITY

Mexico

Mayor: Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo

**TITLE:** Mexico City's Inclusive Income Protection Program

**DURATION:** Jan 2021 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** In 2021, Mexico City expanded its income protection program to provide direct cash assistance to over 450 migrants, refugees, returnees, and IDPs while connecting them to support services related to employability, obtaining personal identification, public health, and social services. The project represents the city government's first tri-secretariat collaboration and paves the way for a stronger coordination of social services for all residents of Mexico City.

Mexico City commits to sustain and institutionalize this program to support the integration of migrants, refugees, and IDPs. The city government will strengthen and expand the institutional cooperation initiated among the three secretariats, deliver training to city government personnel, and develop a digital client database to provide adequate support and follow-up. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## MILAN

Italy

Mayor: Giuseppe Sala

**TITLE:** Africa-Europe Mayors' Dialogue, Milan-Freetown Partnership on Fashion and Textile

**DURATION:** June 2020 – May 2025



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** The Africa-Europe Mayors' Dialogue is a platform of twenty African and European mayors aiming to change the dominant narrative of migration between Africa and Europe to one centered on the idea that connecting cultures and people can bring cities from both continents together and highlight the vital contribution of migrants to city economies and societies. In this framework, the cities of Milan and Freetown are working together to create opportunities for exchange and collaboration between their fashion/design industries and creative communities, and to support business development and investment in Sierra Leone's fashion industry. In Freetown, the objectives are to: 1) establish and support the National Fashion & Design Council, 2) create and consolidate the "Made in Sierra Leone" brand, and 3) implement a long-term skills development and training program and mentoring and business development services. In Milan, this partnership will support fashion industry's efforts to investigate sustainable dyes, textiles, and ethical sourcing options and explore innovative commercial partnerships with stakeholders in Sierra Leone, as well as wider opportunities in West African markets.

**TITLE:** Green Jobs & Just Transition Project

**DURATION:** May 2021 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Building on a pilot for job growth tied to green investments realized with C40 Cities in 2021, Milan commits to launch a flagship program on public housing retrofits and construction. Over the next five years, the program will help the city to move from data collection and analysis to policy making and climate action implementation, delivering thousands of equitably distributed green jobs. This will contribute to reduce emissions, tackle energy poverty, and boost access to jobs among women, youth and migrants in a sector with many non-Italian workers and one of the greatest green job creation potentials. This initiative represents an innovative approach that could inspire and inform other cities in Italy and Europe on how to attract and use recovery funds to achieve climate and social goals jointly and make the case that addressing equity doesn't mean delaying climate action.

**TITLE:** Milan's Effort to Improve Governance, Service Delivery, & Protection of Migrants & Refugees, Especially Youth

**DURATION:** February 2020 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** In 2020, Milan joined the pilot phase of the Call to Local Action and committed ensure inclusive economic integration and development of migrants and refugees, improve social integration, protect the most vulnerable, and improve local governance of migration and forced displacement. Since then, the city has been improving governance and cooperation, taking part in projects such as "MENTOR 2," which tests circular mobility schemes that offer professional traineeship opportunities to young Moroccans and Tunisians in Northern Italy. The city has continued improving social integration through the "WISH MI" project. The project includes a Strategic Plan for an Integrated System of Policies and Programs to Promote the Wellbeing of Girls, Boys, and Teenagers in Milan, defining the vision and building consensus around the challenges that the Municipality intends to tackle through dialogue with local stakeholders. Minors have also been at the center of Milan's actions to protect the most vulnerable migrants and refugees. The experimental Service Centre for Unaccompanied Minors, created in 2019 to provide unaccompanied minors with first temporary residential reception and access to services for care and rights protection, has been incorporated in Italy's System of reception and integration (SAI).

## MONROVIA

Liberia

Mayor: Jefferson T. Kojjee

**TITLE:** Monrovia Go Green for Inclusive City Resilience & Adaptation

**DURATION:** July 2022 – June 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Monrovia commits to provide income generating opportunities for migrant and IDP youth. The "Monrovia Go Green for Inclusive City Resilience and Adaptation" project will train migrant and IDP youth as tree stewards responsible for establishing green corridors by planting 20,000 mangrove and coconut trees in each neighborhood. These corridors will reduce flooding and coastal erosion within West Point and New Kru Town, while adding much needed green spaces along Monrovia's coast and river lines, and incentivizing the closure of illegal waste dumping sites. At the same time, the Monrovia City Government will offer 150 interested youth job training and resources needed to connect to formal employment opportunities within the city. This project is the result of direct engagement with migrant and IDP communities and is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## MONTEVIDEO

Uruguay  
Mayor: Carolina Cosse

**TITLE:** Montevideo's 24-hour Center for Migrant Women & Their Dependents  
**DURATION:** Jan 2023 – Dec 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Montevideo commits to establish a 24-hour center for migrants and refugees seeking safety within the city. The center will have special accommodations for single women and their dependents, particularly those at risk of homelessness. Through the center, migrants and refugees will have improved access to other social services (such as livelihoods programs), referral networks, temporary shelter, and information critical to their stay in Montevideo (such as access to work permits). The Government of Montevideo will operate the center in coordination with relevant public, private, and civil society organizations to ensure migrant needs are met, with specific emphasis on the needs of migrant women and their dependents. This is a pipeline project of the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## MONTRÉAL

Canada  
Mayor: Valérie Plante

**TITLE:** Montréal's One-stop-shop for Migrants – "Station Nouveau Départ"  
**DURATION:** August 2023 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Montréal commits to open the "Station Nouveau Départ" (New Beginning Station) in 2024, bringing together services for newcomers from the municipal and provincial governments under one roof in downtown Montréal. At the Station Nouveau Départ, newcomers will address essential procedures in one visit: obtain their health insurance card, a personalized integration plan, support in finding a job and housing. Montréal will also help newcomers take full advantage of the quality of life that Montréal has to offer and support their social inclusion at the neighborhood level (libraries, sports, culture, recreation, housing programs, knowledge of neighborhoods and living environments). The Station Nouveau Départ has been in development by the City of Montréal in collaboration with the Government of Quebec since 2018. The Station Nouveau Départ aims to put an end to the "obstacle course" that too many newcomers still face. When it opens, it will allow Montreal to fully assume its role as a metropolis of immigration.

**TITLE:** Expand Professional Integration of Newcomers – "Montréal Inclusive au Travail 2022-2024"  
**DURATION:** February 2019 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Montréal is once again taking on a leadership role by committing that, by 2030, it will be more inclusive and efficient in the professional integration of newcomers. The city launched "Montréal Inclusive au Travail" (Montréal Inclusive at Work) in 2019, and its second phase (2022-2024) is ready to be implemented. The initiative's objectives are: to holistically formulate policies and programs to reduce barriers to integration for immigrants; and to enhance the capacity of employers to hire, integrate, and retain immigrants in employment. Deployed in three components (awaken, engage, and equip), the initiative has mobilized and organized 60 CEOs of Montréal Inc. through the Montréal Employer Circle and developed a path of micro-experimentation with companies to secure concrete commitments. The public is engaged through a "Closed Door Day" awareness campaign and podcast.

**TITLE:** Fearless Access to Services for Migrants with Precarious Immigration Status in Montréal  
**DURATION:** June 2019 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** In 2017, Montréal reaffirmed its commitment to protect and make services accessible to all, regardless of migration status. This includes the estimated 50,000 people living in Montréal without documentation. Building on this, the city adopted the "Policy for Fearless Access to Municipal Services" in 2019, based on a concrete tool: the creation of an identification and residence card for fearless access to municipal services. During the pandemic, and despite the shutdown of municipal services, over 500 cards were issued in 2020-2021. These cards provided migrants with access to COVID-19 vaccination, food banks, and banking services, among other services. In addition, the city deployed an intervention and protection unit for migrants to address protection and safety issues. Montréal is intensifying its efforts and commits to four actions in line with the city's Fearless Access policy: 1) train the Montreal Police Service officers to reduce the risk of denouncing non-status people to the Canada Border Services Agency; 2) promote access to service; 3) continue advocating to regularize immigration status; and 4) direct funding to activities targeting individuals with precarious immigration status.

*“Mexico City is expanding its financial assistance to those engaged in the informal economy and that have lost their income due to the impact of Covid-19 in the informal economy. We are grateful to the Global Cities Fund – An innovative funding instrument that arrives at a critical time as we honor the city’s history of pacifism, solidarity, hospitality, and asylum.”*

**Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo**  
Mayor of Mexico City, Mexico



Photo: Mexico City residents receiving cash assistance.  
Credit: Gobierno de la Ciudad de Mexico

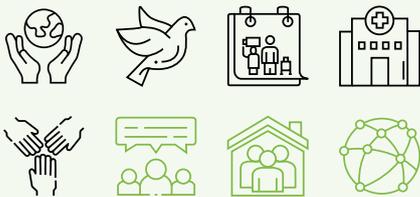
## NADOR

Morocco

Mayor: Soulaymane Azouagh

**TITLE:** Social & Sustainable Nador: Let Us Construct Together a Context Favoring Intercultural Dialogue & Social Inclusion of Migrants

**DURATION:** Dec 2019 – Oct 2020



**TITLE:** Nador: An Active City for Living Together, Promoting Inclusion & Interculturality

**DURATION:** May 2020 – Dec 2021



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Nador took action to strengthen the socio-economic inclusion of migrants in its province with a “Social and Sustainable Nador” project from 2019–2020. Building on the Mediterranean City-to-City Project (MC2CM), and exchange of experiences and practices within the UCLG network, the city is taking a leading role to expand intercultural spaces and ethical and fair discourses on migration. Specifically, the project aspired to strengthen the capacity of at least 40 journalists and narrative creators as part of an ongoing process to improve intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding. The objective was to contribute to social and sustainable cities in Morocco, and to develop and improve cooperation between stakeholders at local, national, regional, and international level. This action is conceived from the research and experience of ASTICUDE and ACPP, as well as from the sharing of experiences and practices within the framework of the meetings organized by the UCLG.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Nador took action to promote a realistic and fair discourse on immigration as part of its development as a social and sustainable city in Morocco. With this project from 2020–2021, the city is created education spaces to encourage dialogue, mutual understanding, and participatory democracy. Using education as a vehicle, the actions encourage critical civic and democratic awareness to support social transformation towards more just and inclusive societies, and promote peace, tolerance, and protection of migrants’ rights. Children and adolescents were engaged through seminars, talks, debates, and virtual exhibitions. The project sought, in the first phase, to support discussions on living together, inclusion and interculturality; and in a second phase to develop these values in practice from spaces of reflection and democratic participation. The project was carried out by ACPP and ASTICUDE.

## NAIROBI

Kenya

Mayor: Anne Kananu Mwenda

TITLE: Nairobi – The City of Choice

DURATION: Jan 2023 – Dec 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Nairobi commits to implement programming that promotes the involvement and employment of migrants, refugees, and receiving communities in the environmental and economic sustainability of Nairobi most marginalized areas. The city government will first conduct a baseline survey to understand the skills and employment needs of migrant, refugee, and IDP communities living in informal settlements in Nairobi. Based on this survey, livelihoods and resilience strategies will be developed in concert with target communities. The city government will establish an innovation center and carry out public space improvement activities, including establishing legal areas for vendors, to provide greater livelihoods opportunities to refugees, migrants and IDPs as part of Nairobi's green and just transition. This is a pipeline project of the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## PARIS

France

Mayor: Anne Hidalgo

TITLE: "Climate Migration in Urban areas: Challenges, Representations, & Inclusion" Project with the City of Paris

DURATION: Jan 2022 - Dec 2022



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Paris, in partnership with the UN Migration Agency (IOM) and the Hugo Observatory of Liège University, is supporting cities to understand the impacts of climate change on migration to and from urban areas and to consider this when developing urban planning tools and climate and migration policies. The project's main objectives are to expand the knowledge available on climate change impacts on migration to and from cities, promote good practice exchange, and support cities in developing inclusive urban policies toward just and sustainable ecological transition. This project complements a growing number of initiatives at the international level, such as those from the Mayors Migration Council and the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, to guide and advance local, national, regional, and global responses to climate change and migration in cities, and to support local actors develop inclusive urban policies.

## QUITO

Ecuador

Mayor: Santiago Guarderas Izquierdo

TITLE: Planning for Human Mobility in Quito

DURATION: Dec 2021 - Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Quito, in partnership with FUDELA, commits to develop and implement a District Human Mobility Plan with the active involvement of migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. The plan will set objectives to increase the service offered to the population in a state of human mobility, create a shared community space to foster their socio-economic inclusion, and give migrant and displaced communities a permanent communication channel to influence city planning. The city government will organize participatory workshops to identify the difficulties these communities face and coordinate with both governmental and non-governmental social and humanitarian assistance providers. The city government will expand and strengthen the free services provided by the city to reach migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. The services and activities will include vocational training courses, legal advice, and programs to strengthen the clients' support networks. This project is supported by the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.

## SAN JOSÉ

Costa Rica

Mayor: Licenciada Paula Vargas

TITLE: San José's Local Migration Governance Indicators Process

DURATION: Dec 2020 - Feb 2022



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** San José participated in the Local Migration Governance Indicators Process (Local MGI) from 2020-2022. Through the Local MGI, the Municipality of San José took stock of the policies, structures, and initiatives in place related to migration. The results of the assessment provided key insights about the challenges and opportunities, and the importance of having disaggregated data to understand the patterns of migration, and the profiles of migrants that come to the municipality, to provide differentiated assistance to this vulnerable population. As a result, the municipality identified the need to strengthen coordination with the national government on migration issues. Further, the exercise has highlighted the importance of integrating migrants in the existing municipal services and social programs, and the inclusion of migration as a key issue to be addressed in the municipal development plans. As a result, the Municipality was able to prepare a plan of action and set priority actions that reflect its capacities and competencies.

*“The City of Esteban Echeverría strives to promote inclusion and equality policies respecting diversity and plurality. In this sense, the city government supports the migrant population living in the district by facilitating the obtention of documents, organizing communication and information activities in the different neighborhoods, and coordinating social and cultural activities.”*

**Fernando Gray**  
**Mayor of Esteban Echeverría, Argentina**  
**Mercociudades President**

## SAN JOSÉ, CALIFORNIA

United States  
 Mayor: Sam Liccardo

**TITLE:** Welcoming San José Plan 2.0: Moving toward Civic, Economic, Linguistic, and Social Inclusion 2021–2024  
**DURATION:** Jul 2021 - Jun 2024



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** San José commits to a 2021–2024 strategic action plan to support and serve the city’s immigrant community. The Welcoming San José Plan is a community-derived set of 23 strategies across four core pillars. The Plan aims to facilitate and accelerate immigrant inclusion in civic, economic, linguistic, and social aspects of life in San José and ensure that immigrants and refugees are engaged, respected, and have opportunities to reach their fullest potential. The four pillars of the Welcoming San José Plan are: Leadership and Communications; Access and Engagement; Educational and Economic Opportunity; and Safe Communities. The strategies will help ensure that race, zip code, status, and country of origin do not impede the opportunity, success, and contributions of any resident of San José. The Welcoming San José Plan, combined with the city’s participation in Welcoming America’s Certified Welcoming program, demonstrates the city’s commitment to monitoring & evaluation, continuous improvement, partnerships, equitable policy design, and community engagement, providing the local context for the implementation of GCM and GCR objectives.

## SÃO PAULO

Brazil  
 Mayor: Ricardo Nunes

**TITLE:** São Paulo’s Municipal Plan of Policies for the Immigrant Population 2021–2024  
**DURATION:** 2019–2024



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** In 2019, São Paulo contributed to the pilot phase of the Call to Local Action and pledged to develop a municipal policy for migrants and refugees. In the 1st Municipal Plan of Policies for the Immigrant Population, São Paulo committed to take 80 actions from 2021–2024 to achieve the GCM and GCR in unison. The plan was developed with direct social participation of migrants and refugees and in accordance with the city’s groundbreaking policy framework. The Plan has supported São Paulo’s progress, including: 1) Improving coordination by launching a monitoring framework to gather data across municipal departments. 2) Enhancing the city’s “Open Doors” Program to ensure economic integration and expand access to Portuguese language classes for migrants. 3) Improving access to essential services and countering discrimination, such as training 2300+ civil servants from across the city to prevent discrimination and raise awareness on migration challenges in the city. 4) Protecting the most vulnerable by implementing the Municipal Workflow for Assistance to Victims of Contemporary Forced Labor. 5) Enhancing the city’s international migration diplomacy through efforts like the Mayors Migration Council, Mayors Mechanism, and It Takes a Community campaign of the GFMD.

## SFAX

Tunisia  
 Mayor: Mounir Eloumi

**TITLE:** Multi-stakeholder Cooperation Projects in Sfax to Ensure Migrants’ Access to Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic  
**DURATION:** May 2022 - Sept 2020



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Sfax launched a concerted evidence-based crisis response to provide migrants with stable access to essential services during the COVID-19 pandemic. Over 5,000 vulnerable migrants, including 2,000 women, have benefited from this initiative undertaken in close cooperation with civil society organizations, migrant associations, academic institutions, investors, and government and international organizations. The city government requested the Sfax governor and the regional health directorate to guarantee universal access to health services, including COVID-19 testing and treatment in hospitals, regardless of the legal status. The municipality also collaborated with actors such as “Doctors of the World” to guarantee non-discriminatory access to health services. Additional concerted project actions included: the distribution of care packages and vouchers to vulnerable migrants with the assistance of IOM, migrant student associations, and the private sector; information campaigns targeting those harder to reach on quarantine measures and how to access essential services; and direct support to vulnerable populations in coordination with IOM and “Terre d’Asile Tunisie.”

## STRASBOURG

France  
Strasbourg City Council

**TITLE:** Manifesto for Dignified Reception of Vulnerable Migrants in Strasbourg  
**DURATION:** 2019



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** In 2019, Strasbourg contributed to the pilot phase of the Call to Local Action, where they committed to implement the “Manifesto for Dignified Reception of Vulnerable Migrants” adopted by the Strasbourg City Council on March 25, 2019. Through the Manifesto, Strasbourg continued its approach as a “*Ville hospitalière*,” initiated in 2017 to better respond to situations encountered by vulnerable migrants and improve the coordination and commitments across ecosystem of actors in Strasbourg (institutions, associations, residents). The Manifesto is an effort to move beyond emergency response to a sustainable approach, thus contributing to one of the founding principles of the UN Agenda 2030: “leave no one behind.”

## ZÜRICH

Switzerland  
Mayor: Corine Mauch

**TITLE:** Humanitarian Aid from Zürich for Ukrainian refugees in neighboring countries  
**DURATION:** April 2022 - August 2022



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** With a financial commitment of 500,000 Swiss francs, the City of Zürich commits to support refugee reception and assistance in Ukraine’s neighboring countries. This encompasses contributions to humanitarian aid programs maintained by national charitable collection organization as well as the four largest Swiss relief organizations. The main focus of the aid is emergency assistance for refugees at the borders of Ukraine with the neighboring countries Romania, Hungary, Moldova, Slovakia, and Poland. The Zürich City Council will consider further financial contributions to humanitarian assistance for the Ukraine in 2022.

**TITLE:** Admission, Reception, & Assistance of Refugees from Ukraine in Zürich  
**DURATION:** February 2022 - Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** The Government of Switzerland has activated the special protection status “S” for the refugees from Ukraine, which allows for rapid admission and pragmatic assistance based on a collective recognition of the protection needs of Ukrainian citizens. The protection status “S” grants protection for one-year (renewable) social welfare and access to the Swiss labor market immediately after registration. The Canton and City of Zürich work hand in hand with the State Secretariat for Migration, as well as non-state stakeholders and private individuals, to ensure smooth and effective processing of registration, accommodation, information, and assistance. While the national level oversees registration and administering the protection status, the Canton and City of Zürich in partnership with welfare organizations have committed to maintain a welcome and information center, identify and coordinate collective and private accommodation and volunteer work, provide social welfare, facilitate school enrolment, maintain hotlines for refugees and private sponsors, and offer free public transportation for refugees.

**TITLE:** Work Towards a Comprehensive Whole-of-Government Coordination Mechanism between Swiss Cities and the National Government Towards the 2023 Global Refugee Forum  
**DURATION:** Nov 2021 - Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** In Switzerland, national and city governments have started to build dialogue to enable a shared understanding on the Global Compact on Refugees. Owing to the involvement of the Mayor of Zürich in the Mayors Migration Council (MMC), Zürich has maintained informal relations with the national government on an ad hoc basis, including joining the official Swiss delegation to the GRF in 2019 and the HLOM 2021. However, there is no structured and inclusive (of all interested LRGs) national coordination mechanism for the benefit of a comprehensive whole-of-government response to the GCR implementation and review process. Zürich is committed to work with the national government and interested Swiss cities towards this aim in view of the upcoming GRF in 2023. The objective of this action is to establish a structured, inclusive whole-of-government mechanism that allows for more effective coordination and collaboration between the national and local governments for GCR implementation and review. This institutional improvement shall benefit refugees hosted in Switzerland or assisted by Switzerland abroad.

## ANVITA (National Association of Welcoming Cities and Territories) France

**TITLE:** "Projet ODDyssée" – Raising Awareness on Migration and the SDGs in French Cities  
**DURATION:** Jan 2022 – Dec 2024



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** ANVITA commits to support the "Projet ODDyssée: les migrations font bouger le monde!" an educational project to foster civic engagement and international solidarity on migration in French cities. The project's main objective is to encourage citizens to be open to the world and the "Other," and to raise awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals and the positive contribution of migration. The project is structured around four main axes: First, raise the awareness of the educational community and youth on the relation between migration and sustainable development. Second, support local elected officials from different municipalities in France that are part of ANVITA on 'Migration and Development' challenges to promote local and international solidarity initiatives. Third, foster synergies and integrate young people, educational actors, the nonprofit sector, local elected officials, and researchers in ongoing initiatives to promote an informed discourse on migration. Fourth, capitalize and disseminate the tools, resources, and other outputs of the "ODDyssée" project on the web. This project is developed by a consortium led by the NGO Grdr Migration-Citoyenneté-Développement.

**TITLE:** Local Leaders Campaign Against Misinformation on Migration in France  
**DURATION:** March 2022 – April 2022



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** During the 2022 French presidential elections, ANVITA organized an advocacy campaign where mayors tackled big misconceptions on migration and promoted an evidence-based discourse. The campaign comprised two main actions: First, the initiative "Mayors committed to welcoming exiles" presents videos of five ANVITA mayors, sharing a commitment for the next five-year term. The Mayor of Poitiers opened the series of videos answering the question: "Migration in France: Is this a new phenomenon?" The Mayor of Grenoble answered the question: "If we welcome, will the migrants come?" In turn, the Mayor of Rouen answered the question: "Does France have the capacity to receive migrants?" The Mayor of Strasbourg discussed the question: "Can we talk about a migration crisis since 2015?" Finally, the Mayor of Fontenay-sous-Bois answered the question: "Rather welcome refugees than migrants?" Each mayor presented a fact-check, local and national remarks, and a proposal for a future government measure. The second initiative, "Let's fight against misinformation," proposes to react swiftly to candidates or political parties' statements that spread false information during the presidential elections.

**TITLE:** Simultaneous ceremonies of sponsors of migrants, refugees and displaced persons.  
**DURATION:** December 2021



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** On the occasion of International Migrants Day in 2021, ANVITA coordinated civil sponsorship ceremonies across 20 French local governments, welcoming more than 300 exiles into French local communities. The towns of Arcueil, Barberaz, Clermont-Ferrand, Chambéry, Cognin, Die, Grenoble, La Flèche, Louvigny, Lyon, Malakoff, Paris, Rouen, Saint-Baldoph, Strasbourg, Tours, and Villeurbanne were among participating cities. Several of them integrated the sponsorship ceremonies into a broader program around International Migrants Day, coupled with film screening and dissemination of testimonies, among other initiatives. Sponsorship is symbolic and does not influence the process to obtain a resident permit. Nevertheless, it contributes positively to the public opinion to restore the rights to citizenship of undocumented migrants and refugees, and the need to reform migration and reception policies. For ANVITA, this collective action was an opportunity to carry out advocacy on the right to citizenship, to make the situation of migrants in France visible, and to challenge the incessant degradation of reception conditions for people exiled in France.

**TITLE:** Local Elected Official's Campaign for Refugee Convention & Respect for Refugee Rights

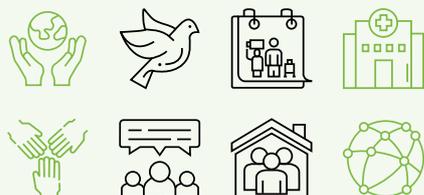
**DURATION:** June 2021



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** In 2021, ANVITA launched an awareness-raising campaign among its network of French cities on the occasion of World Refugee Week, marking the 70th anniversary of the 1951 Geneva Convention on the protection of refugees. The campaign's main objective was to inform on the commitments to refugees France had made by signing the Geneva Convention and raise awareness of the challenges today to respect the rights of asylum seekers in France. For a week, elected members of the ANVITA network recalled France's commitments and breaches of the Geneva Convention. The campaign was possible thanks to the expertise and collaboration of Jesuit Refugee Service France.

**TITLE:** ANVITA's Guide for a Welcoming France – Inspiring Practices from Local Governments

**DURATION:** Jan 2021 – Ongoing



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** ANVITA issued a guide collecting inspiring practices from its membership of French local governments on unconditional welcome for newcomers. The guide provides an answer to the question "what is a welcoming territory?" to support and provide learning to actors new to reception and integration of migrants, as well as experienced actors seeking to deepen their knowledge. The guide is not exhaustive but addresses practices and systems that could be improved. It offers a means to share knowledge between ANVITA's local government members, provides inspiration to other local government authorities, to local actors who want to put forward proposals for their community, and others interested in migration policies. The report comprises three parts, built from a common base to become a welcoming town and city developed by Alliance Migrations. The main pillars are: 1. A vision of migration based on interculturality for the recognition of rights of all, 2. Universal access to rights, 3. Political participation of foreign residents. The guide will serve as the basis for national advocacy and city-to-city learning for ANIVTA members going forward.

## C40 - MMC Global

**TITLE:** C40 Cities and Mayors Migration Council Invest in Achieving the Global Mayors Action Agenda on Climate and Migration

**DURATION:** June 2021 – Dec 2023



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** As leading mayor-led organizations on climate and migration respectively, C40 Cities and the Mayors Migration Council join together and commit to accelerate global action on climate migration. C40 and MMC will invest in and scale up the work of the C40-MMC Global Mayors Task Force on Climate Migration (C40-MMC Task Force), a mayor-led initiative to accelerate global responses to climate and migration. They will be guided by the Global Mayors Action Agenda on Climate and Migration launched at COP26 in 2021, which sets out a collective vision for inclusive climate action. In 2022-2023, C40 and MMC will: 1) Work together to achieve the Global Mayors Action Agenda on Climate and Migration; 2) Support city-led solutions to climate and migration challenges through a new chapter Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees focusing on Inclusive Climate Action (GCF:ICA). The GCF:ICA will provide direct technical and financial resources to cities addressing the needs of migrant and displaced communities affected by the climate crisis. These actions are in line with the Paris Agreement, the GCR, and if achieved, will contribute to the direct advancement of GCM objectives (mainly: 2, 5, 7, 15, 16, 18, 19, and 23).

## FAMSI (Andalusian Fund of Municipalities for International Solidarity)

Spain, Morocco

**TITLE:** “Tú También / تنأ اضريأ” Project – Assessment of Mobility of Migrant Children & Youth in Andalusian & Northern Moroccan Cities

**DURATION:** June 2021 – Ongoing



**TITLE:** “EMBRACIN” Project – Comprehensive Inclusion Model for Young Adult Migrants in Andalusian Cities

**DURATION:** Jan 2020 – Dec 2022



**TITLE:** “Music Moves Us” Campaign in Andalusian Cities

**DURATION:** Jan 2021 – Oct 2022



**TITLE:** “MOVE GREEN” Project in Andalusian and Northern Moroccan Cities

**DURATION:** Nov 2021 – Aug 2024



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** FAMSI commits to the “#TÚTAMBIÉN / #تنأ اضريأ” project to improve inclusion of migrants and management of migration in Andalusian and Northern Moroccan cities, especially unaccompanied migrant children and youth. The project includes an awareness raising campaign for local governments and opportunities for training, exchange of experiences and capacities, and international alliances. In 2021, to support the project, FAMSI and partners conducted and released an assessment the mobility of children, adolescents, and young people and local interventions to improve inclusion, support protection, and fight discrimination and racism against migrant children in Andalusian and Northern Moroccan cities. The assessment interviewed 42 local governments’ technical personnel, including five municipalities in Morocco, six in Andalusia, the association of municipalities of Campo de Gibraltar, and the provincial government of Huelva.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** FAMSI commits to support the reception of young adult migrants in Andalusian Cities through the “EMBRACIN” project supported by the European Commission. EMBRACIN offers a new comprehensive approach to the reception and integration of young migrants of legal age. 16 young migrants, mainly youth who have left government guardianship and protection system, are currently benefiting from this project in the cities of Seville, Jaen, and Cadiz. Through the project, six professionals from different disciplines, including medicine, law, social work, languages, teaching, and psychology support these young migrants in their transition to adult life and towards self-reliance. FAMSI, as a network of local governments in Andalusia, supports comprehensive reception and support services for these young people, betting on accompanying, as completely as possible, their transition to adult life in the stage that elapses between reaching legal adulthood and the consolidation of their personal autonomy.

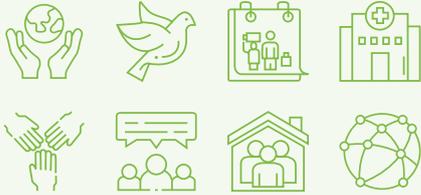
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** FAMSI commits to implement a “*La música nos mueve*” (Music moves us) Campaign using music to promote inclusive values and foster the integration of migrant children and youth in Andalusian cities. 40 migrant youth have participated in workshops as part of the campaign. To conclude the campaign, youth participants are performing concerts and recording videoclips with local musicians in different Andalusian cities to showcase the work developed and raise awareness among host community members about the situation of children, adolescents, and young adults who have experienced a migratory journey. In May 2022, the documentary “*La música nos mueve*” will be released and made available on platforms such as Filmin. These workshops are part of the project #TÚTAMBIÉN/ #تنأ اضريأ, carried out by FAMSI, with support and financing by the Andalusian Agency for International Development Cooperation, in close collaboration with the Directorate General for Children of the Ministry of Equality, Social Policies and Conciliation.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** FAMSI commits to the “MOVE GREEN” pilot project to promote youth employability and entrepreneurship in the green, circular, and renewable economy sectors in Andalusia and Northern Morocco. The project provides professional training and qualifications for youth, contributing to the retention of talent in Morocco. The project has four main phases: stakeholder mapping and mobilization, training, internships, and integration into the labor market. In addition, the project supports the exchange of experiences on both sides of the Strait of Gibraltar. This includes visits to public and private entities working on renewable energies and the green economy and organizing an international seminar on cooperation and innovation policies in the Mediterranean. The project aims to increase collaboration among institutions, private sector, and academia; and strengthen public-private partnerships in the green and circular economy at the local and national levels.

## GERMANY - MAYORS MECHANISM

**TITLE:** Localizing the Global Compact for Migration.

**DURATION:** 2022



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** The German government supports the GFMD Mayors Mechanism in the rollout of its Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees. The Call to Local Action is implemented in partnership with UNHCR to increase states' and multilateral actors' recognition of the transformative impact of LRGs on migration governance by showcasing local approaches to migration governance and illustrating actions that contribute to the implementation of the GCM and the GCR. Germany provides 200,000 euros to support Mayor Mechanism activities, including the present report's publication. This pledge is connected with the pledge submitted by the GFMD Mayors Mechanism, entitled 'GFMD Mayors Mechanism commits to implement the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees, a tool to accelerate the localization of the GCM and GCR.'



Photo: Woman loading water in Koyeteche.  
Credit: Samer Saliba

# RECOMMENDATIONS

This report illustrates that LRGs are both at the forefront of managing the daily realities of migration and forced displacement and at the forefront of political leadership to support migrants and refugees.

LRGs increasingly step-up globally and nationally to showcase their pragmatic actions and their political commitment to drive people-centered solutions and responses to migration and forced displacement. The multitude of actions submitted through the Call to Local Action bears testimony to this broad, global, and principled commitment. Indeed, emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the Afghanistan and Ukraine conflicts, and the climate crisis show that community-oriented approaches lead to innovative solutions that inspire action on a larger scale.

LRGs carry enormous potential for global impact, as the international community prepares for increasingly urban migration and forced displacement trends.

In practice, this potential remains largely untapped by national and global institutions. LRGs often face limited political mandates to act, lack coordination avenues to engage with other levels of government, and face the reality of shrinking municipal budgets hit hard by COVID-19.

Consolidation and inclusion of LRGs in national, regional, and global migration policy making is critical to respond to the increasingly urban character of migration. LRGs stand ready to take on this role.



Photo: Johannesburg, South Africa. Credit: iStock ViewApart

## How to get there, together

### National governments and their regional organizations should:

- **Empower LRGs with adequate mandates and matching resources** to implement local policies in accordance with your national policy framework and commitment to global goals.
- **Consult LRGs as in the design, implementation, and evaluation of migration and forced displacement policies**, including national migration and forced displacement policies, GCM and GCR national voluntary reviews, and national pledges to the GCM and GCR.
- **Partner with LRGs, inviting them to join national delegations to formal review processes**, including towards the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, 2024 GCM Regional Reviews, and 2026 second International Migration Review Forum.
- **Adjust the modalities of the next IMRF** so that:
  - LRGs can meaningfully engage in the discussions, similar to other recognized stakeholder groups. This is in line with the Secretary General’s “Our Common Agenda,” where he calls for more systemic engagement of local and regional governments in international processes as an avenue to build a stronger, more inclusive multilateral system.
  - The efforts of LRGs to develop local implementation plans and local reviews can be highlighted in the Forum, similar to the HLPF process.

### The UN System should:

- **Recognize the mandate and commitment of LRGs** to contribute to the implementation of the GCM and GCR and offer concrete avenues to partner, consult, and invest in LRGs in UN activities.
- **Create meaningful pathways to consult and engage LRGs in GCM and GCR review and implementation mechanisms** in a transparent and coordinated manner, such as the GFMD has established with the Mayors Mechanism.
- **Partner meaningfully with LRGs via UN Country Teams**, as crucial partners to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.
- **Encourage national governments to meet the whole-of-government principle**, by creating specific vertical coordination and consultation mechanisms with LRGs on migration and forced displacement.
- **Include LRGs as partners or recipients of UN Migration Network and UNHCR-led funds**, such as the Migration Multi Partner Trust Fund, the Refugee Environmental Protection Fund, or other migration and forced displacement response funds.

### Humanitarian and development actors and donors should:

- **Create or invest in financing mechanisms for migrant and refugee inclusion that LRGs can directly access**, like the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.



# GLOSSARY

ANVITA	French National Association of Welcoming Cities and Territories
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
EU	European Union
FAMSI	Andalusian Fund of Municipalities for International Solidarity
GCF	Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees
GCM	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration
GCR	Global Compact on Refugees
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation
GFMD	Global Forum on Migration and Development
GTF	Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments
HLOM	High-Level Officials Meeting
HLPF	High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
IDP	International Displaced Person
IMRF	International Migration Review Forum
IOM	International Organization for Migration (United Nations Migration Agency)
LRGs	Local and Regional Governments
MC2CM	Mediterranean City to City Migration
Local MGI	Local Migration Governance Indicators
MM	Mayors Mechanism
MMC	Mayors Migration Council
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals (aka 2030 Agenda)
UCLG	United Cities and Local Governments
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (United Nations Refugee Agency)
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VLR	Voluntary Local Review
VNR	Voluntary National Review

# ENDNOTES

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- <sup>9</sup> “Global Cities Fund”, Mayors Migration Council, <http://www.mayorsmigrationcouncil.org/gcf>
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- <sup>11</sup> Shawarbeh, Yousef et al. “Mayors’ Letter to UNHCR”, December 6, 2017, signed by the Cities of Amman, Athens, Atlanta, Barcelona, Bristol, Chicago, District of Columbia, Dallas, Gothenburg, Los Angeles, Milan, Montreal, New York City, Paris, Philadelphia, Providence and the Immigrants Rights Commission from San Francisco, [https://issuu.com/brookings/docs/mayors\\_letter\\_to\\_unhcr\\_w\\_signatori](https://issuu.com/brookings/docs/mayors_letter_to_unhcr_w_signatori)
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Photo: Esteban Echevarría, Colombia. Credit: Municipalidad de Esteban Echevarría.



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