

Fourth Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs)

Break-out Groups: Preparing for the 4 Roundtables of the 2nd HLD Group I: Mainstreaming Migration into Development Frameworks

1) Context and background¹

Since the first UN High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD) in 2006, states have explored, through the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), collaborative approaches to enhancing the benefits and curbing the negative impacts of migration for development. The discussions and issues addressed at the GFMD have considerably evolved since it was first convened in 2007. As from 2009, the Global Forum has paid dedicated attention to the topic of *factoring migration into development strategies*, together with a sustained emphasis on the need for better migration data and for greater institutional and policy coherence on migration and development. The integration of these elements characterizes the GFMD's comprehensive approach to factoring migration into development planning, as well as the members' understanding of the importance of migration and development in relation to achieving the MDGs and for realising the Millennium Declaration's ambition to ensure that globalisation becomes a positive force for all people. (...)

The Global Migration Group's (GMG) Handbook on *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning* was designed to introduce migration practitioners to the process of development planning, and to give development practitioners an idea of how migration could be factored into the development planning cycle as well as sector specific strategies in the areas of employment, health, education etc.

The Handbook defines migration mainstreaming as ***“the process of assessing the implications of migration for any action or goals planned in a development and poverty reduction strategy”*** (ibid.) Mainstreaming thus means taking a systematic, rather than ad-hoc, approach to the inter-linkages between migration and development, based on a substantive assessment or analysis of those linkages. The mainstreaming process brings focused attention to: 1) a country's policy framework, including legislation, policies, and programmes that affect migration and development; 2) its institutional framework, including the role of different government and non-government stakeholders and the establishment of sustainable consultative mechanisms; and 3) bilateral and regional cooperation frameworks, including development.

¹ The following section consists of excerpts taken from the background paper prepared for the 2012 GFMD Roundtable 2 - *Factoring Migration into Development Planning*. The full paper is available at http://www.gfmd.org/documents/mauritius/gfmd12_mauritius12_rt_2-1-background_paper_en.pdf.

2) Guiding questions:

- a) *Have your respective RCPs had any discussions that seek to better understand the interlinkages between migration and development (e.g. the impact of remittances, the sharing of good practices amongst states on mainstreaming migration into development planning)?*
- b) *Have any concrete tools (e.g. Migration Profiles) been promoted by your RCP based on the understanding of their potential benefit in terms of improved data collection and analysis on the interlinkages between migration and development?*
- c) *Does your RCP hold discussions with economic, trade and development bodies in your region on areas of common interest? To what extent is the agenda of your RCP supporting or influencing the agenda and priorities of these bodies?*