Unlocking the potential of migration for inclusive development

Diasporas and Development
IDM 2013 Diaspora Ministerial Conference
Ambassador Eva Åkerman-Börje
What is the GFMD?

- State led, non-binding, intergovernmental process that brings together approx. 160 states and observers annually.
- Civil society manages a parallel process globally that joins with the state-led GFMD during Common Space during the week of the Global Forum.
- Priority of Swedish GFMD Chair is a more development-oriented forum – looking at how migration can enhance positive development outcomes.
Focus of GFMD discussions

- Labour migration and mobility;
- Diasporas; remittances;
- Strategies for addressing irregular migration and enabling regular migration;
- The rights of migrants;
- Policy coherence and mainstreaming,
- Data and research;
- Governance of migration and coordination of dialogue.
Roundtable themes

1. **Integrate migration in national and global development agenda**
   - Operationalize policy coherence between migration and development policy
   - Migration in the post-2015 development agenda

2. **Inclusive economic development**
   - labour migration, circular mobility and labour-market matching
   - Development effects of diaspora-generated trade and investment

3. **Inclusive social development**
   - Empowerment of migrants/diaspora, their families and communities
   - Migrant /diaspora social and economic transfers for the health and education sectors
Engaging with the diaspora

- Role of diaspora gained increasing prominence in past decade.
- Volume of remittances as well as the transfer of skills, knowledge, trade and investments make the diaspora important development partners.
- Development happens along a continuum. In a globalized world, states are interlinked and co-dependent.
- Diaspora, as transnational development actors, are important.
Engaging with the GFMD

- Many governments with diaspora ministries have experiences in how to engage with their diaspora.
- Other governments are only now beginning to formulate policies in support of diaspora engagement.
- GFMD, through roundtables and thematic meetings, is an important platform for an exchange of ideas in support of migration for development.
- GFMD looks forward to support and engagement from states.
GFMD Forum Meeting in Stockholm
12-16 May 2014

www.gfmd.org
www.government.se/gfmdsweden