



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations (OIM)
Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)

2015 IOM-CSO Consultations

Protecting and Positively Impacting Migrant Lives

IOM Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland

18 September 2015

Final Report



Introduction

The annual IOM-CSO Consultations took place on 18 September 2015 at IOM Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland under the broad theme of *Protecting and Positively Impacting Migrant Lives*. Nearly 50 representatives participated from a range of civil society organizations (CSOs), with several who travelled from outside of Switzerland.

IOM Director General, Ambassador William Lacy Swing, opened the Consultations acknowledging that this annual dialogue with CSOs is one of the most important events held at IOM Headquarters, and that this interaction with one another should happen on a regular basis. He further stressed that IOM and CSOs need to continue to strengthen partnerships and dialogue further towards the common objective of saving lives. Participants were reminded that IOM has expanded the dialogue platform with CSOs through the first annual IOM-NGO Humanitarian Consultations co-organized in June 2015 with the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) to exchange views of common areas of interest in migration and develop a road map to further strengthen partnerships between IOM and humanitarian NGOs.

The timeliness and urgency of this year's IOM-CSO Consultations is highly evident given the massive displacement and unprecedented migrant deaths at sea and on land, along with IOM's *Missing Migrants* project having already recorded 2,812 migrant deaths in the Mediterranean Sea, which is expected to increase by the end of the year. IOM started recording migrant deaths through the *Fatal Journeys* project, which has calculated over 40,000 migrant deaths since 2000. Given the conflicts and emergencies happening worldwide, the Director General emphasized that this is not a migrant crisis, but rather a systemic crisis whereby migration is not a problem to be solved, but rather a human reality to be managed.

The CSO participants brought up various points for the Director General to consider, including underscoring the importance of complementarity in advocacy, and encouraging global positive solidarity on migration. The Director General highlighted that the toxic public narrative of migration is starting to be countered by citizens' polar oppositions to their governments. Thus, it is critical that IOM and CSOs work together to help shift the political debate towards implementing policies on migrant inclusion and integration, so that members of society can unite as productive forces and meaningful contributors.

Session I – Setting the scene: comprehensive approaches to protecting and saving migrant lives

The Director of IOM's Department of International Cooperation and Partnerships, Jill Helke, opened the session to highlight the growth in partnership and collaboration that IOM has with CSOs, in which 62 CSOs are Observers of the IOM Council, and more than 1,600 work with IOM worldwide in various initiatives ranging from direct assistance to migrants, to research, policy development, advocacy, and capacity building. Ms Helke reiterated the timeliness and urgency of this year's Consultations that touch on a range of current issues and challenges, including the ongoing crises in the Mediterranean, the Andaman Sea, and the Middle East.

Reflecting on progress made from last year's Consultations, Ms Helke noted the success in ensuring that migration and migrants have been included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as support by the public in some countries to influence politicians in a more positive way to shift the toxic narrative on migration to one that focuses on migrant inclusion and integration.

Given that mixed migration flows is one of many key areas where IOM is putting forth comprehensive approaches to protecting and saving migrant lives, Ms Helke highlighted IOM's work in the Middle East and North Africa, Horn of Africa and other regions of Africa, as well as the Caribbean, Central Asia, and South-East Asia, among others. The collaboration with CSOs in various mixed migration task forces as well as the Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat was recognized. To enhance IOM's work on mixed migration flows and the interlinking of counter-smuggling, working groups have been established to ensure a migrant-focused, rights-based comprehensive approach.

The Head of the International Migration Law Unit, Kristina Touzenis, provided an update on IOM's Protection Policy, which will be presented to the Member States at the IOM Council at the end of November. Ms Touzenis highlighted the importance of IOM reflecting a rights-based approach in all areas of work, and that this internal document serves to guide staff in all IOM missions worldwide. While the responsibility to protect migrants lies with states, IOM's role is to advise them on how to build their capacities to improve the protection of migrants.

Addressing the numerous challenges in protecting and assisting migrants in crises and particularly those falling under mixed migration flows, Kathrine Starup, Global Protection Advisor from the Danish Refugee Council provided the CSO perspective and approach to address mixed migration flows through five building blocks: 1) Comprehensive approaches addressing the full cycle of mixed migratory movements: in countries of origin, en route, in reception and countries of transit, and in countries of destination; 2) People-centered approach with protection at the core: to ensure that all human beings, refugees and migrants, irrespective of status are treated with respect and dignity; 3) Enable effective protection-sensitive solutions through improved data, evidence and analysis: on the root causes and drivers of mixed movements, tracking mixed migration trends and the scale and nature of the phenomenon; 4) Coordination and collaboration: between national and international actors, while also including local municipalities in looking at more sustainable solutions beyond humanitarian assistance; and 5) Responsibility sharing: reiterating the responsibilities of the States and shifting focus from a securitization and state deterrence approach to a people-centred approach that implements existing frameworks, provides safeguards and an expansion of legal avenues for migration, and puts protection at the core of the response and solutions to mixed migratory movements.

An initiative supporting development of comprehensive approaches is the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Initiative. IOM's MICIC Secretariat representative, Monique Frison, highlighted that the crisis in Libya made it clear that migrants caught in crisis situations have specific vulnerabilities, many of which are pre-existing and can be exacerbated during times of crisis, specifically during conflicts and natural disasters. Thus, the objective of the government-led MICIC Initiative is to save lives, protect the rights and uphold the dignity of migrants, while also addressing the longer term impacts through better preparedness, more effective responses, and better recovery for migrants, their families and communities. Through an inclusive consultation process, the MICIC Initiative seeks to develop non-binding principles, guidelines and effective practices for all phases of a crisis, and relevant to situations of both natural disasters and conflict. Ms Frison highlighted that there are a series of regional consultations being held with governments and other stakeholders, and that civil society groups are also organizing parallel consultations to feed into the governmental consultations, in which civil society representatives also participate. In addition, dedicated MICIC consultations are being organized for the private sector, civil society and international organizations. IOM has also developed a website (<http://micicinitiative.iom.int>) for actors to share their practices. Ms Frison encouraged CSO engagement through the CSO parallel consultations, through the dedicated CSO consultation the Initiative will host in January 2016, as well as through the MICIC website's on-line contribution [portal](#).

Building on the MICIC presentation, John Bingham from the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) provided the CSO perspective that civil society wants to encourage going beyond the current scope of MICIC to also assist migrants in crisis in transit countries with a view to

addressing the wider implications of the problem. CSOs are placing emphasis on migrants and refugees who are caught in crises, viewing them as important actors rather than just victims. Moreover, Mr Bingham emphasized that we must work harder to act on early warnings of emerging crises as well as identify the root causes, essentially the route choices that individuals make. Through the work of MICIC, it is also important to include civil society as it represents migrants and practitioners who have an intimate understanding of what is happening on the ground. CSOs are also advocating for an understanding of 'crisis' to go beyond conflict and disaster, while ensuring that migrants' needs come first followed by a rights-based approach. From a CSO perspective, having access to rights in ordinary times is the best tool for migrants to then be able to take care of themselves in times of crisis.

Participants reacted to the panel with a range of comments. The NGO Committee on Migration, which is also part of the CSO working group on MICIC along with ICMC and the Global Coalition on Migration, highlighted the recent survey on which organizations are dealing with migrants in transit, the challenges they are facing, their practices, and recommendations to CSOs and Governments to better address these crises. Recommendations included finding mechanisms to better protect and assist women and children in transit, issuing more humanitarian visas, changing the Dublin Regulation, and identifying local contacts to assist with local issues such as human trafficking. IOM's MICIC Secretariat reiterated its 2016 deadline to draft principles, guidelines and effective practices, and emphasized that IOM needs advice from civil society on these practices. It was further underlined that this is also an opportunity for civil society to make clear what they need from governments and each other to address the needs of migrants caught in countries in crisis more effectively.

Other CSO participants commented on the huge number of children on the move who are in need of protection, especially while in transit. They stressed that these crises are like time-bombs in which we need to act on these early warnings and understand the economic costs of these systemic crises.

The CSOs also expressed appreciation for IOM's Protection Policy, but were concerned that they had not been consulted to contribute to the text, as they have done for IOM's Humanitarian Policy. Although the Protection Policy is an internal IOM document, CSOs will have the opportunity to provide feedback after it is presented to the IOM Council at the end of November.

There was consensus among the participants that as humanitarian actors, we must implement a comprehensive approach to protecting and saving lives. We must focus on needs and rights first rather than on one's status, essentially having a people-centered approach that ensures everyone's rights, protection, and dignity. A comprehensive approach also requires us to identify the drivers of forced and irregular migration, understand the root causes and take immediate action by responding to the early warnings of a crisis emerging, while also linking our approach to development for a longer-term solution.

Session II – Promoting migrant inclusion and integration

The hostility towards migrants witnessed around the globe and the complex challenges that this presents, including in terms of limiting fact- and evidenced based policy making, continues to be of great concern to IOM. Following up on the discussion on *Improving the Global Public Perception of Migrants* from last year, this session provided the participants with the opportunity to discuss how public perception of migrants influences integration efforts and can stir the political debate on migrant inclusion and integration. Integration is vital for social cohesion, but is preceded by or dependent on acceptance and openness to migrants. Public national and international perception change campaigns contribute to humanizing migrants and informing the public discourse which in turn has an impact on the willingness to include migrants by host communities. This goes hand in

hand with lobbying for social policies and ensuring access of migrants to public services to ensure inclusion and integration.

Saira Grant, from the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI) based in the UK, started her presentation by illustrating how the UK had created a hostile environment towards migrants through the use of negative rhetoric and populist arguments against migrants which led to the erosion of the UK's legal framework in support of migrants and their families. This is the reality in many migrant receiving countries, which shows the need for more balanced and evidence-based public discourse to positively shift public perception to fully include migrants in receiving communities. JCWI's poster campaign, "I am an Immigrant" in London tackled the negative perception by creating posters that highlight the positive role that migrants play in the UK, and display migrants have been and continue to be an integral part of everyone's daily life. Even though there is no evidence whether this campaign changed public opinion overall, there was overwhelmingly positive media coverage on the campaign and the usage of negative language in political discourse ceased. The crucial factors of the success and effectiveness of the campaign were threefold: 1. The posters visually stated the undeniable fact that migrants not only contribute to our society, but are part of our daily interactions. The campaign thereby challenged prejudices by depicting reality rather than giving theoretical arguments; 2. The campaign involved the public from the beginning through crowdfunding and continues to involve businesses, private persons and public spaces; and 3. It facilitated a debate by giving migrants a voice and letting them speak to the public through the posters.

To challenge the existing negative perception of migrants, Itayi Viriri from IOM's Media and Communications Division has taken a similar approach in making migrant voices heard in perception change campaigns and letting migrants tell their own narratives. This method has proven to be an effective way to reach the wider public and question their perception as to who migrants are, as it humanizes migrant stories and breaks down abstract data and numbers of arrival to actual personal stories and faces. IOM adapted the poster campaign of JCWI to a campaign called "I am a Migrant" to not only include immigrants, but also emigrants, who are both beneficiaries of IOM's work. Furthermore, IOM initiated a smartphone video competition to give migrants the chance through digital media to visualize their stories and show their own perspectives. This has enabled migrants to directly challenge any prevailing negative perceptions about them as individuals or as groups, as well as about migration in general.

Another effective IOM perception change campaign called "Migrants Contribute" is based on the concept that migrants' active participation in their host communities enhances the inclusion of migrants in society. Especially civic participation, particularly the right to vote in local elections, facilitates local integration and inclusion from both sides. Local governments recognize migrants' contributions as well as needs by perceiving them as constituents. Migrants on the other hand are included in local communities through sharing responsibility in the local governance process.

With its diverse perception change campaigns, IOM aims to influence public opinion on migrants, and thereby indirectly influence policy making as has recently been seen in some countries where an outpouring of support by the public has been influencing politicians in a more positive way.

The participants added to the discussion with a lot of insights and ideas on how CSOs can contribute to these campaigns and increase the positive impact that JCWI, IOM and others are already having through promoting migrant inclusion and integration. Participants stressed that CSOs must work harder to help migrants overcome their difficulties through self-organising in migrant associations and trade unions, sensitization programs, information sharing, and preparing them to understand their new environments. It is also important for CSOs to be fully aware and knowledgeable of and take seriously anti-migrant arguments in order to effectively combat them. The CSOs noted that these campaigns and approaches are also important for IDPs and internal migrants who too are vulnerable in their own countries. This also points to the importance and value of having portable

services, particularly for education and language as well as access to social protection. However, it was pointed out that we must still look further at the implications of migration on urbanization and how to better integrate migrants into cities. To advance our approach on these issues, participants suggested the establishment of a working group as well as setting up a campaigns database along with a platform for CSOs to exchange ideas. The participants also emphasized that we need to understand the difference between inclusion and integration, and ensure that both are happening fully in our communities and broader societies.

To conclude, Saira Grant from JCWI highlighted the importance of empowerment. When people take ownership, their sense of belonging affects their desire for and level of integration. Moreover, the participants recognized that integration is vital for social cohesion, but that public perception and openness to migrants is critical for inclusion to happen.

Session III – Migration and climate adaptation

This session looked at how IOM and civil society are working on issues around human mobility and climate adaptation, and how we can better work together, especially as the upcoming Paris climate change negotiations (UNFCCC COP21) will be taking place in December.

From IOM's perspective, the Head of the Migration, Environment, and Climate Change Division, Dina Ionesco, emphasized that IOM has worked very hard to make sure that migration is included in the Paris negotiations debate. Ms Ionesco highlighted IOM's work in this specific area since 1992 encompasses a unique, comprehensive approach that links together research and operational activities to connect with policy evidence, which is most visible in IOM's operations. IOM's three main objectives, as transversal activities, are: 1) To prevent forced migration resulting from environmental factors; 2) To provide assistance and protection to affected populations and seek durable solutions where forced migration does occur; and 3) To facilitate migration as a possible adaptation strategy to climate change. Through IOM's focus on the multi-causality of the issue, Ms Ionesco also highlighted the challenge and debate on terminology. Since 2007, IOM has been using the term 'environmental migrant.' While this remains a working term, it serves as an advocacy tool and gives visibility to this category of migrants.

This lack of awareness of migrants affected by environmental factors and climate change has an impact on data, given that by 2020, 75-250 million people in Africa will be exposed to water stress due to climate change, and by 2025, up to 2.4 billion people worldwide will be living in areas subject to periods of intense drought, and 50 million in areas subject to desertification. Ms Ionesco stressed that together, we have an obligation to collect and share accurate data available on migrants displaced each year from natural disasters.

To respond to the growing demand of comprehensible data, maps, and concrete facts on the issue of environmental migration, IOM has developed the *Atlas on Environmental Migration*¹ which provides a visual overview of this trend of human migration through maps, illustrations and explanatory texts. The Atlas aims to clarify and explain key notions, concepts, and terminology while also exploring the complex patterns and dynamics of environmental migration by providing insight through case studies on countries or regions witnessing migration flows, forced or voluntary, related to sudden disasters and slow-onset environmental processes.

Given the critical importance of partnerships to more effectively address this issue, IOM is partnering with a range of CSOs and inter-governmental organizations. IOM is also a member of the Advisory Working Group along with other agencies including UNHCR, UNU, IDMC, CVF, UNDP, and

¹ Read more about IOM's *Atlas on Environmental Migration* here:

<http://environmentalmigration.iom.int/sites/default/files/Flyer%20Atlas%20Environmental%20Migration.pdf>

ILO who coordinated together action and submissions to the UNFCCC COP21 Paris negotiations to bring human mobility in the negotiated text.

To enhance communication on this topic, IOM has developed the *Environmental Migration Portal: Knowledge Platform on People on the Move in a Changing Climate* (<http://environmentalmigration.iom.int/>). The website seeks to promote new research, information exchange and dialogue, intended to fill existing data, research and knowledge gaps on the migration-environment nexus.

Building on IOM's approach to migration and climate adaptation, Alex Randall from Climate Outreach & Information Network (COIN) presented a picture of what it would look like if migration became a form of climate adaptation, and how this idea has changed the discourse on human mobility. Mr Randall addressed the concerns that CSOs have, particularly in terms of policy responses that either cope with or ignore the reality. By entering the debate, international organizations and CSOs have shifted the discourse among governments and other actors to recognize the reality of migration potentially being a coping strategy and practical response to deal with environmental and climate stressors. Taking the next step, Mr Randall posed the idea of migration as climate adaptation becoming a policy whereby it became a planned process with funding to assist people on the move; hence, the shift would be from migration being a coping strategy to a policy on planned mobility in which governments, international organizations, and CSOs are involved.

In shifting towards policies that support migration as climate adaptation, Mr Randall noted that IOM's Atlas is a crucial tool to help facilitate policy planning. In addition, increasing the level of education in vulnerable communities is a form of preparation along with training to obtain skills necessary to perform new types of work, particularly in cases of former agricultural communities moving to urban areas. Mr Randall also highlighted that movements are not always permanent, but may rather be seasonal, which has implications for both households and communities, as well as for the labour market.

One of the key challenges that Mr Randall identified in environmental migration is in helping migrants move, but also in addressing the needs of the communities they leave behind. Thus, CSOs are working on key issues impacting both sending and receiving communities, as well as assisting migrants directly. A motivating factor in advancing the work in this area is the fact that the discourse has shifted due to the advocacy of IOM, CSOs and others, and we now see a large number of refugee and migration organizations enhancing their engagement on the issue.

Following these presentations, the participants acknowledged that it is time to come together and step up our actions immediately towards implementing a comprehensive approach. We must recognize that if we cannot remove the threat to environmental degradation and climate change, we must then assist people on the move as well as the sending and receiving communities. CSOs stressed the need to anticipate these movements by identifying the issues at hand and predicting who is and will soon be affected. They also emphasized that the right to return must be upheld, in which there was general consensus that the pattern of leaving and returning is how the adaptive response works. Mr Randall further emphasized that one of the main objectives is to prevent displacement and that there should be an element of choice in terms of decision-making on timing and where migrants want to go so that they are not forced to move. However, Ms Ionesco pointed out that legally, environmental migrants cannot obtain refugee status, but their rights should be a focus of this discourse.

Both IOM and the CSOs recognized that even though the issue has long term implications, we must act now to address the immediate needs as well as the root causes. In some cases, this means that we must also help some people not to move such as through the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk*

Reduction 2015-2030,² in which IOM is currently implementing DRR activities. Furthermore, the participants acknowledged the importance of asking migrants directly if the environment was a factor for why they migrated, otherwise the issue risks becoming invisible or indistinguishable. IOM highlighted that its Displacement Tracking Matrix³ can be used to see how much environmental issues impact migration with a view to assessing the types of responses needed.

Session IV – Migration futures

This interactive session gave participants an introduction to ways of thinking, tools and techniques that help us to think “outside of the box”, bringing together our collective skills and experience, and most importantly, our ability to think creatively and work together to ‘create’ possible future migration scenarios. As the moderator and facilitator of this session, the Director of World Vision International, Beris Gwynne, explained her organization’s work on ‘megatrends’, which evolved from a process of discussions about disruptive change. This process enlightened World Vision to not just shape their strategies and plans for a three to five year period, but rather to understand that megatrends require a re-engineered long-term approach for the next three to five decades. Through their work on megatrends and futures, World Vision organized a two-day workshop in June 2015 on “Global Futures – Geneva Perspectives”, which IOM also participated in and gained inspiration to include migration futures in this year’s Consultations.

To set the scene, Ms Gwynne presented five key messages for participants to remember when creating their possible future migration scenarios: 1) Keep in mind the ‘time frame’ and resist sliding back into short-term thinking that connects to the strategic planning imperatives that we are facing today; 2) Understand and test world views and assumptions – and how they shape our expectations and ambitions for the future; 3) Allow ourselves the space to imagine and believe that it does not have to be this way; 4) Accept that there is no ‘one’ future scenario, but rather many possible futures; and 5) Accept that there are no right or wrong answers as no one knows what the future holds.

With all of these points in mind, the participants broke into groups to discuss their predictions and preferences for the next 30 to 50 years in the areas of: 1) Conflict and security; 2) Technology; 3) Prosperity and poverty; 4) Socio-cultural; and 5) Governance (local rural to city, national, regional to global).

For the next 50 years, participants did not have a very positive outlook on conflict and security issues. They predicted that cities would be more polarized in terms of levels of prosperity with borders being tightly controlled and highly militarized. Despite these predictions, the group identified that the best case scenario would be to no longer have an arms trade, but rather be focused on values with people being allowed to move freely and being fully integrated and included in their societies.

In the area of technology, participants predicted that in 50 years there would be autonomous cars, social media would have advanced to having computer chips in our heads, and the world would shift to a cashless society in which people make purchases with their thumbs. As a result of these technological advancements, the group predicted that societies would become further isolated and places without access to this technology would be left adrift. Moreover, technology would allow for more mechanized and deadly drones, and thus endless and highly destructive conflicts. Despite these grim predictions, participants identified that there could be the possibility for less conflict because of technological advances, and hence, prosperity.

² Access the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030* here:

http://www.preventionweb.net/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf

³ Access more information on IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix here :

<http://www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/What-We-Do/docs/DOE-Infosheet-DTM-v2-1.pdf>

The participants acknowledged that moving towards prosperity and eliminating poverty is a difficult task given their prediction that if global consumption continues to increase, there will be more polarization. However, the preferred path would be for societies to shift this consumption towards something more sustainable and ultimately prosperous for all such as cleaner energy, green technology, and enhancing economic development through more viable and renewable ways of production.

Looking at socio-cultural elements, the participants were rather pessimistic predicting that respect for ethics and values, religion and faith, human rights and equal opportunities will only continue to worsen as conflicts will continue to persist. As a result, the sense of community will be destroyed, all borders will be closed, and the developed world will dominate and unite wiping out half of the world. Despite this extremely negative prediction of the future, the group saw the only exception to this destruction happening being the inter-generational obligation, essentially the current generation recognizing that measures must be taken to improve the current situation with a view to making a better future. Thus, the preferred scenario is that civil society will have a greater role in changing views, and there will be more mobility, making cities will be more international and multi-ethnic. As a result, there will be a greater respect for human rights, and people will have higher expectations for politicians to take on more responsibility as well as individuals taking on their own personal responsibilities.

The participants who looked at the future of governance and the local, national, regional and global levels predicted that in 50 years there will be more tribalism and less nationalism with states having less power and thus a shift towards more narrowed, global identities. However, the alternative, preferred outcome is to have stronger research and education to improve relations at the state level along with better and more equitable resource allocation and a system to regulate public 'goods and bads', which would also ensure that human rights are being upheld for all.

From these conclusions on the future of migration, Ms Gwynne emphasized that how stories are told matters. In our current context, it is important to identify to what story we are responding with respect to the mass migration that is happening in Europe. The participants learned that we should not rely on governments, the private sector, civil society and others to shape the future. Rather, we need to come to a deeper level of collective intelligence that chooses a positive framework in order to move forward and create the future that we want for all.

Concluding remarks

In conclusion, the Director of IOM's Department of Operations and Emergencies, Mohammed Abdiker, stressed the urgency of dialogue between IOM and civil society. Mr Abdiker emphasized that humanitarian crises are happening because of the failure of political leadership, which has been the sad reality of the Syrian crisis in which over 200,000 have died. IOM recognizes the importance of partnerships and acknowledges that there are issues which CSOs are able to address more effectively. Thus, IOM has evolved from viewing CSOs as service providers to being implementing partners, making partnerships with CSOs a clear priority.

To conclude the Consultations, the Head of IOM's International Partnerships Division, Meera Sethi, thanked all of the CSOs for their participation and valuable contributions towards a meaningful and open dialogue. It is through these annual consultations that IOM and CSOs continue to strengthen our collaboration and partnership with a view to advancing a common understanding and building on synergies and generating innovative solutions to address the challenges that continue to emerge on the international migration landscape.

Recommendations and Action Points

1. IOM and CSOs will increase their efforts to address the plight of migrants taking dangerous sea journeys to Europe, acknowledging various principles of partnership, including the World Humanitarian Summit, Sustainable Development Goal #17, and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), among others;
2. IOM and CSOs will work on enhancing our complementary advocacy, building on the good and effective approach of the Quartet (IOM, UNHCR, OHCHR, SRSG for International Migration);
3. CSOs and IOM will aim to establish a working group to advance approaches on migrant inclusion and integration;
4. IOM will aim to further enhance its campaigns and improve collaboration with CSOs on migrant inclusion and integration by creating a database and/or platform to exchange ideas for campaigns;
5. CSOs will aim to expand the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants' campaign on the *Movement against Xenophobia* to other countries across the globe;
6. CSOs are encouraged to contribute to IOM's website on *Environmental Migration Portal: Knowledge Platform on People on the Move in a Changing Climate* (<http://environmentalmigration.iom.int/>), which seeks to promote new research, information exchange and dialogue, intended to fill existing data, research and knowledge gaps on the migration-environment nexus;
7. IOM will continue to seek collaboration with CSOs on the topic of migration futures with a view to institutionalizing more creative forward and longer-term thinking in responses to migration challenges.



IOM-CSO Annual Consultations
Protecting and Positively Impacting Migrant Lives
 1st Floor Conference Room, IOM HQ, Geneva
 18 September 2015
Agenda

8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:15	Introductory Remarks: William Lacy Swing, Director General, IOM
9:15 – 11:00	<p><u>SESSION I: Setting the scene: comprehensive approaches to protecting and saving migrant lives</u></p> <p><i>This session will explore comprehensive approaches to protecting and assisting migrants in life threatening situations, as are occurring within the context of mixed migration flows, such as the on-going crises in the Mediterranean and Yemen. It will also explore IOM support to the state-led Migrants in Countries in Crisis Initiative (MICIC) and IOM’s counter-smuggling activities.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting the scene: Jill Helke, International Cooperation and Partnerships Department, IOM • Overview of IOM’s Protection Policy: Kristina Touzenis, International Migration Law Unit • CSO perspective on mixed migration flows: Kathrine Starup, Danish Refugee Council • IOM perspective on MICIC: Monique Frison, MICIC Secretariat • CSO perspective on MICIC: John Bingham, International Catholic Migration Commission • Discussion <p>Moderator: Colin Rajah, Global Coalition on Migration</p>
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 –13:00	<p><u>SESSION II: Promoting migrant inclusion and integration</u></p> <p><i>This session will examine how migrants play a central role in their own integration process, as well as how public perception of migrants strongly influences integration outcomes. Studies show that integration occurs increasingly at the local level, and that migrants’ abilities to develop strong social networks coupled with participation in the labour market along with robust anti-discrimination policies are critical indicators. IOM will draw from recent integration initiatives and share ongoing activities that promote the positive contributions of migrants through MCD’s latest projects which include perception change campaigns such as “I am a Migrant”/ “I am an Immigrant”.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO perspective: Saira Grant, Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants • IOM perspective: Itayi Viriri, Media and Communications Division

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion <p>Moderator: Genevieve J. Gencianos, Public Services International</p>
13:00 – 14:15	Lunch (<i>1st floor Conference Room in main building</i>)
14:15 – 15:45	<p><u>SESSION III: Migration and climate adaptation</u></p> <p><i>The reality that climate change influences the movement of people calls for policy makers and civil society to acknowledge and act on new research insights. The upcoming December 2015 Paris climate change policy negotiations (UNFCCC COP21) should lead to the adoption of a universal, legally binding agreement aiming to combat climate change effectively. Thus, this session is very timely and will highlight the need for stakeholders from the public and private sectors, civil society, academia, and the migrants themselves to support the efforts. We will discuss the role of civil society in working on issues around human mobility and climate change and how intergovernmental actors and civil society can work together.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IOM perspective : Dina Ionesco, Migration, Environment and Climate Change Division • CSO perspective : Alex Randall, Climate Outreach & Information Network • Discussion <p>Moderator: Meera Sethi, International Partnerships Division, IOM</p>
15:45 – 16:00	Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:30	<p><u>SESSION IV: Migration Futures</u></p> <p>Moderator: Beris Gwynne, Director, World Vision International, Geneva Office</p> <p><i>In this interactive session, participants will have the opportunity to think “outside of the box”, and based on both their experiences and imagination, create possible future migration scenarios. Engaging with these “migration futures” will allow us on the one hand to actively pursue and shape ideal future migration scenarios. On the other hand, envisioning worst case migration scenarios will guide us to come up with policies and other mechanisms to prevent them.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to strategic foresight and scenario building by Beris Gwynne, World Vision International • Break-out group work • Reporting back and discussion
17:30 – 17:45	<p>Summary of Discussions and Way Forward</p> <p>Rapporteur: Melissa Pitotti, International Council of Voluntary Agencies</p>
17:45 - 18:00	Concluding Remarks: IOM
18:00 – 19:00	Reception (<i>1st floor Conference Room in main building</i>)

2015 IOM-CSO Annual Consultations
Protecting and Positively Impacting Migrant Lives
Participant List

	Name	Organization
1	Xavier Du Crest	Aide et Action International
2	Umi Daniel	Aide et Action International (South Asia)
3	Dawit Asgedom	Assistance for a Voluntary Return and Reintegration of African Migrants
4	Stefano Nobile	Caritas Internationalis, Geneva
5	Federica Castellana	Caritas Internationalis, Geneva
6	Marieke Noz	Child Helpline International
7	Alex Randall	Climate Outreach & Information Network
8	Alice Anderson- Gough	Danish Refugee Council
9	Kathrine Starup	Danish Refugee Council
10	Colin Rajah	Global Coalition on Migration
11	Patrick Taran	Global Migration Policy Associates
12	Fangzhou Liang	Global Migration Policy Associates
13	Sina Schôn	Global Migration Policy Associates
14	Arnaud Bertin	Global Migration Policy Associates
15	Beier Lin	Global Migration Policy Associates
16	John Bingham	International Catholic Migration Commission
17	Anna Pascale	International Catholic Migration Commission
18	Lucy McGovern	International Catholic Migration Commission
19	Beatrice Carlevaro	International Catholic Migration Commission
20	Cristina Palazzo	International Catholic Migration Commission
21	Daniel Helle	International Committee of the Red Cross
22	Melissa Pitotti	International Council of Voluntary Agencies
23	Marita Swain	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre/Norwegian Refugee Council
24	Alexandra Vericel Lhermenier	IEDA Relief
25	Ibrahima Coly	IEDA Relief
26	Massimo Frigo	International Commission of Jurists
27	Jeannette Wöllenstein	International Social Service
28	Cesare Fermi	INTERSOS
29	Fawzia Al Ashmawi	International Islamic Relief Organization
30	Saira Grant	Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants
31	Dr. Christine Botchi Morel	Jeunesse en Détresse
32	Ralston Deffenbaugh	Lutheran World Federation

33	Chris Gaul	Migrant Help
34	Eva Sandis	NGO Committee on Migration
35	Alberto Pasani	Norwegian Refugee Council
36	Genevieve Gencianos	Public Services International
37	Patrick Endall	Quaker United Nations Office
38	Julien Lescop	Foundation for the Refugee Education Trust (RET International)
39	Anita Bay	Save the Children International
40	Diarra Diop	Save the Children International
41	Kathleen Woodhouse- Ledermann	Swiss Academy for Development
42	Valerio Prato	Swiss Foundation of the International Social Service
43	Jean-Claude Javet	Swiss Health Invest
44	Ignacio Packer	Terre des Hommes
45	Laura Micco	UNHCR
46	Beris Gwynne	World Vision International
47	Ana Duran Salvatierra	IOM
48	Michela Macchiavello	IOM
49	Director General, Mr. Swing	IOM
50	Meera Sethi	IOM
51	Kristina Touzenis	IOM
52	Monique Frison	IOM
53	Itayi Viriri	IOM
54	Dina Ionesco	IOM
55	Jill Helke	IOM
56	Mohammed Abdiker	IOM
57	Laura Lungarotti	IOM
58	Kristina Galstyan	IOM
59	Mailan Thai	IOM
60	Rachel Velasco	IOM

2015 IOM-CSO Consultations

Protecting and Positively Impacting Migrant Lives

Key conclusions and action points – a short summary

Session I: Setting the scene: comprehensive approaches to protecting and saving migrant lives

- There was consensus among all of the participants that a comprehensive approach is critical to protecting and saving lives;
- Participants recognized that a comprehensive approach entails identifying the drivers of migration, understanding and tackling the root causes, and taking immediate action by responding to the early warnings of a crisis emerging, while also linking the approach to development for a longer-term solution;
- Regarding responses to mixed migration flows, participants underscored the importance of a needs-based, rights-centered approach, rather than focusing on categorizing migrants according to their status, to ensure everyone's rights, protection, and dignity;
- IOM's MICIC Secretariat encouraged CSOs to engage in the MICIC Initiative by contributing their best practices to the website, by participating in consultations organized by civil society in parallel to those for governments, as well as in the consultation that will be specifically organized for CSOs; their unique perspective will help shape the Initiative's principles, guidelines and effective practices;
- Participants were pleased to learn that IOM has developed a Protection Policy that will be presented at the IOM Council in November, and IOM welcomes CSOs to comment on the document once it becomes public.

Session II – Promoting migrant inclusion and integration

- Participants recognized that integration is vital for social cohesion, but it is dependent on acceptance and openness to migrants;
- Public perception campaigns contribute to humanizing migrants and shifting towards a more positive public discourse. In this regard, participants appreciated IOM's and JCWI's similar and effective approaches in making migrant voices heard in perception change campaigns and letting migrants tell their own narratives;
- IOM highlighted that digital media, through its smart-phone campaign, allows migrants to visualize their stories and share their own perspectives, which has in turn enabled migrants to directly challenge any prevailing negative perceptions about them as individuals or groups, as well as about migration in general;
- IOM's perception change campaign, "Migrants Contribute", focuses on migrants' contributions to and active participation in their host communities;

- Through its diverse perception campaigns, IOM aims to influence public opinion of migrants and thereby indirectly influence policy making;
- Participants emphasized the need for all to understand the difference between inclusion and integration, and ensure that both are happening fully within our communities and societies.

Session III – Migration and climate adaptation

- IOM and CSOs have collaborated to make sure that migration is included in the UNFCCC COP21 climate change negotiations that will take place in Paris in December 2015;
- It is important to continue the debate on terminology. Since 2007, IOM has been using the term ‘environmental migrant’, which serves as an advocacy tool to give visibility to this category of migrants with a view to influencing responses at the policy level;
- IOM and CSOs recognized the need for reliable data on migrants displaced each year from natural disasters. IOM has developed the *Atlas on Environmental Migration*⁴ which provides a visual overview of this trend of human migration through maps, illustrations and explanatory texts;
- IOM and CSOs further recognized the critical importance of partnering with one another to more effectively address this issue, and have already done so as well as through coordination with international and intergovernmental organizations in the Advisory Working Group;
- By entering the debate, international organizations and CSOs have shifted the discourse among governments and other actors to recognize the reality of migration being a practical response to adapt to climate change and environmental degradation;
- The Climate Outreach & Information Network (COIN), advocated for policies on planned mobility within the context of climate adaptation, whereby governments, international organizations, and CSOs are involved in the policy-making process;
- Both IOM and the CSOs emphasized that we must act now to address the immediate needs as well as the root causes;
- Participants acknowledged the importance of interviewing migrants directly on whether environmental factors played a role in their decision to migrate in order to ensure that these factors are better accounted for and recognized as an important reason for migration.

Session IV – Migration futures

- Participants leveraged their ability to think creatively and co-create alternative scenarios by brainstorming predicted and preferred futures in the areas of conflict and security, prosperity and poverty, technology, socio-cultural, and governance;
- Participants developed creative solutions to shift potentially negative trajectories into positive ones that would make human rights universally respected, make free movement and full integration and inclusion into societies easily possible, gear technological advances towards peace and prosperity rather than sustaining conflict, strengthen economic development through

⁴ Read more about IOM’s *Atlas on Environmental Migration* here:

<http://environmentalmigration.iom.int/sites/default/files/Flyer%20Atlas%20Environmental%20Migration.pdf>

renewable forms of production, and encourage responsibilities to be taken on both collectively and individually to move towards a positive and sustainable future;

- Through this exercise, participants learned the importance of scenario building as critical to preparing for the future;
- Participants recognized that we need to come to a deeper level of collective intelligence that chooses a positive framework in order to move forward and create the future that we want for all;
- Participants acknowledged that megatrends require a re-engineered long-term approach for the next three to five decades as thinking long term can help us to consciously take action instead of merely reacting to emerging challenges.

Recommendations and Action Points

1. IOM and CSOs will increase their efforts to address the plight of migrants taking dangerous sea journeys to Europe, acknowledging various principles of partnership, including the World Humanitarian Summit, Sustainable Development Goal #17, and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), among others;
2. IOM and CSOs will work on enhancing our complementary advocacy, building on the good and effective approach of the Quartet (IOM, UNHCR, OHCHR, SRSO for International Migration);
3. CSOs and IOM will aim to establish a working group to advance approaches on migrant inclusion and integration;
4. IOM will aim to further enhance its campaigns and improve collaboration with CSOs on migrant inclusion and integration by creating a database and/or platform to exchange ideas for campaigns;
5. CSOs will aim to expand the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants' campaign on the *Movement against Xenophobia* to other countries across the globe;
6. CSOs are encouraged to contribute to IOM's website on *Environmental Migration Portal: Knowledge Platform on People on the Move in a Changing Climate* (<http://environmentalmigration.iom.int/>), which seeks to promote new research, information exchange and dialogue, intended to fill existing data, research and knowledge gaps on the migration-environment nexus;
7. IOM will continue to seek collaboration with CSOs on the topic of migration futures with a view to institutionalizing more creative forward and longer-term thinking in responses to migration challenges.