

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Regional webinars in Latin America and the Caribbean towards the International Migration Review Forum

April 5, 2022

Concept note and Agenda

Round table 2: Migration Governance, saving lives and sustainable reintegration



The International Migration Review Forum (IMRF or Forum) is the primary global intergovernmental platform where Member States can discuss and showcase the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM). In efforts to support Member States, civil society and other relevant stakeholders towards the IMRF, the United Nations Regional Network on Migration for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNNM-LAC) organizes a [regional multistakeholder webinars series](#) as of late March until late April 2022. These webinars, which replicate the structure of the global dialogues facilitated by the United Nations Network on Migration Secretariat, offer an open, inclusive space with a regional focus to discuss approaches to achieving a rights-based migration for the benefit of all in compliance with the guidelines of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They are also designed to help Member States, civil society and other stakeholders prepare for the Forum's roundtables and policy debate.

Register [here](#).

1. Background

The second session of this regional webinars series will be held on April 5, 2022, and will offer an open space to discuss progress in the implementation of GCM objectives 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 21. It also acknowledges that the GCM is based on a set of ten cross-cutting and interdependent guiding principles¹.

This round table seeks to discuss human rights-based and action-oriented approaches, whose priority is to save lives, combat smuggling in migrants, eradicate human trafficking, guarantee access to documentation, promote alternatives to immigration detention, manage borders in an integrated manner and facilitate the voluntary return and reintegration of migrants. Addressing these challenges implies the coordination of responses for the prevention and protection against transnational crime, violence, abuse, and exploitation, and by promoting safe and dignified sustainable return and reintegration of migrants.

Migratory flows in the region are increasingly complex, diverse in its profiles and some of them are subject to greater vulnerability in transit routes. COVID-19 has exacerbated the precarious situation

¹People-centered, international cooperation, national sovereignty, rule of law and procedural guarantees, sustainable development, human rights, gender perspective, child perspective, whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach.

of migrants in many transit and destination countries. Migrants working in the informal sector have experienced particularly increased risk in terms of job loss and vulnerability related to human trafficking. Restrictions on international mobility led many migrants, particularly women and girls, boys and adolescents, to resort to more dangerous routes, exposing them to networks of smugglers and human traffickers, as well as to discrimination, xenophobia and mistreatment in some host communities.

In this framework, the Regional Review process in Latin America and the Caribbean called for more actions to prevent abuses, deaths and disappearances along migratory routes; it called to review the national plans against human trafficking and the smuggling of migrants; to ensure gender and age approaches to the topic as well as to consider regularization as a key element of protection and assistance on this subject. It also urged to guarantee the dignified and safe return of migrants with full respect for their rights, to assess risks prior to the return of migrants and to link returnees to established reception and reintegration programs. As such, the need to review border management was reaffirmed, ensuring that processes are carried out within a framework of respect for the rights of migrants, including the establishment of protection mechanisms for children and adolescents, alternatives to arbitrary detention and collective expulsions, and safeguarding the family reunification.

2. Guiding questions

- a. What actions could facilitate migrants' access to legal identity to allow for their regularization, particularly in the case of persons in vulnerable situations? Can you share some related challenges and best practices?
- b. During the 2021 GCM Regional Review, civil society organizations with substantive experience in the topic highlighted the issue of deaths and missing migrants. As part of these group of stakeholders, can you share good practices and lessons learned in this regard? How could governments contribute to safeguarding the lives of migrants and their families?
- c. Border closures and restrictions at the onset of the pandemic have led to the rise of new routes and profiles of human trafficking and migrant smuggling. What challenges have these new dynamics implied for governments and stakeholders? What coordinated actions could be highlighted in terms of consular cooperation that provide assistance and protection to victims?
- d. What coordinated actions among different actors could be implemented to ensure the sustainable reintegration of returned migrants to their places of origin? What support do governments require and what challenges persist?
- e. What are some good practices that could help guarantee that the return of migrants always takes place in conditions of safety and dignity, and that it ensures the migrants' sustainable reintegration? What challenges persist?

3. Agenda

Date: April 5, 2022

9:00-10:30 A.M (Costa Rica) | 12.00-13.30 P.M (Argentina)

Platform: zoom

10 minutes	<p>Moderador: Ms. María Jesús Mora, Research Assistant, Migration Policy Institute (MPI).</p> <p>Opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Stacy de la Torre, National Officer, Head of the Programs Area, UNODC México. • Mr. Pedro Vera, Gender Advisor of the OHCHR Regional Office, UN.
30 minutes	<p>Panel</p> <p>The panel will discuss good practices, challenges, lessons learned and emerging priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Álvaro Garcés, Undersecretary of the Undersecretariat for Immigration and Consular Services, Ecuador. • Ms. Claudia Interiano, Regional Coordinator of the Transnational Area, Foundation for Justice and the Democratic Rule of Law. • Ms. Sandra Chaves, Technical Secretary of the Regional Coalition against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants (CORETT). • Ms. Susana Guerra, Undersecretary of Hospitality and Interculturality, Secretariat for Migrants and International Liaison, Guanajuato, México. • Mr. Álvaro Calderón, Director of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Colombia. • Moderator: Ms. María Jesús Mora, Research Assistant, Migration Policy Institute (MPI).
40 minutes	<p>Discussion / Q&A</p>
5 minutes	<p>Rapporteur</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Fabiane Cristina Silva Mesquita, Red Sin Fronteras