

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

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

April 26, 2022

Concept note and Agenda

Round table 4: Data, information and evidence-based policy making



The International Migration Review Forum (IMRF or Forum) is the primary global intergovernmental platform where Member States can discuss and showcase 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 fourth and *last* session of the regional webinars series will be held on April 26, 2022, and will offer an open space to discuss progress in the implementation of GCM objectives 1, 3, 7, 17 and 23. It also acknowledges that the GCM is based on a set of ten cross-cutting and interdependent guiding principles¹.

Strengthening evidence-based policymaking for informed public discourse and enhancing international cooperation to reduce vulnerabilities and promote safe, orderly and regular migration are among the core objectives of the GCM. Information - conceptually defined with its specific sources - is a central issue. Accurate, reliable and timely data disaggregated by sex, gender, age, immigration status, disability and other characteristics are central to informed public debate and the formulation of evidence-based policies and programs that are sensitive to children, gender and human rights. The lack or low quality of data and the insufficient use of the available evidence contribute to migration governance that is unable to provide effective responses, in favor of safe, orderly and regular migration. Discrimination, stigma and xenophobia can also have a corrosive effect on society, breaking

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.

trust and hampering the inclusion and protection of the human rights of migrants. Likewise, the Covid-19 pandemic had numerous socioeconomic impacts and on regional migratory flows. These highlighted the importance of having recent data to develop more accurate public policies.

Ensuring evidence-based policies and practices aligned with relevant legal frameworks, for example to uphold the best interests of children or provide protection to victims of human trafficking, is key to addressing and reducing vulnerabilities, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Safe, orderly and regular migration requires informed and autonomous migrants who can access information about their rights and obligations during the different stages of migration. This may include information on access to documentation, fair hiring, skills, qualifications, entry and exit requirements, including health, living and working conditions, and access to services, among others.

The COVID-19 pandemic has flagged structural inequalities and has exacerbated many of the challenges already faced by migrants in vulnerable situations. At the same time, the pandemic has highlighted how dependent societies are on migrants, especially in sectors such as health, food, care and other essential services. The pandemic has shown that no State can address migration alone and has reinforced the importance of collective action and international cooperation.

The Regional Review process in Latin America and the Caribbean identified challenges linked to the insufficiency of disaggregated, accurate, and comparable data, in addition to the disparity in the availability and access to information and analysis regarding specific topics and population groups (labour migration, discrimination, childhood migrant, among others). Addressing this situation requires responses based on strategic alliances. International cooperation is essential to improving the production, access and dissemination of migration data. The Regional Review also identified an intensification of abuse, violence, exploitation and even deaths and disappearances along migratory routes, as well as an increase in situations of discrimination, racism and xenophobia towards migrants in the context of COVID 19. As such, establishing comprehensive policies based on evidence is essential in advancing towards satisfactory migration governance in LAC.

2. Guiding questions

- a. What actions might States develop in synergy with civil society actors to improve the collection, exchange, analysis and dissemination of migration related data across the region? How to ensure that migrants and other actors have access to updated, quality and easy-to-understand migration information?
- b. How might States and stakeholders effectively address vulnerabilities arising from the circumstances in which some migrants travel or the conditions they face in countries of origin, transit and destination? What are some promising practices in this regard?
- c. How to advance in the construction of a regional strategy for strengthening information on migration? How might we take advantage of the use of new technologies and metabases to improve the quality of data collection to contribute to the design of evidence-based public policies?
- d. How might the media and journalists promote a more realistic, humane and constructive perception of migration and migrant populations? How might the media contribute to counteracting narratives and expressions of racism, racial discrimination, violence, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrant groups?

- e. What actions might strengthen the capacity of government, academic and civil society actors to counterbalance myths and hate speech directed against migrants? How might data on migrants and migration contribute to generating a more positive, humane and constructive perception of migrant groups?

3. Agenda

<p>Date: April 26, 2022</p> <p>9:00-10:30 A.M (Costa Rica) 12.00-13.30 P.M (Argentina)</p> <p>Platform: Zoom</p>	
10 minutes	<p>Moderator: Mr. William Mejía Ochoa, member of the Human Mobility Research Group, Technological University of Pereira, Colombia.</p> <p>Opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Sabrina Jurán, Regional Technical Advisor on Population, Development and Youth for Latin America and the Caribbean, UNFPA.
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"> Ms. Julibeth Rodriguez, Subdepartment of Demographic Statistics, National Institute of Statistics (INE), Chile. Mr. Wilson Paz, Director General, Directorate for the Protection of Honduran Migrants, Honduras. Mr. Felipe Muñoz, Inter-American Development Bank (IADB). Ms. Flavia Mantovani, Journalist for Folha de S. Paulo. Mr. Carlos Catella, Director of International Migration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship, Argentina. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderator: Mr. William Mejía Ochoa, member of the Human Mobility Research Group, Technological University of Pereira, Colombia.
40 minutes	<p>Discussion / Q&A</p>
5 minutes	<p>Rapporteur</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Adriana Velásquez, Associate Researcher in Migration and Development, Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO), El Salvador.
10 minutes	<p>Closing remarks</p>



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Marcelo Pisani, Regional Director for South America, IOM.• Ms. Michele Klein Solomon, Regional Director for Central and North America and the Caribbean, OIM.• Mr. Simone Cecchini, Director of the Population Division, CELADE, ECLAC. |
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