



**United Nations  
Network on Migration**

2021 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

**VNR Lab on migration**

12 July 2021, 13.00-14.30 EDT

Concept note

**Introduction**

[VNR Labs](#) provide an informal platform for experience sharing and reflection on the [Voluntary National Review](#) (VNR) process. The Labs, held under the Chatham House rule, are open to Member States, the United Nations system and representatives of Major Groups and other Stakeholders. This VNR Lab on migration is being organized by the [United Nations Network on Migration](#) (UNNM)<sup>1</sup> in collaboration with the Group of Friends on migration (GoF).

**Objective**

The objectives of the VNR Lab on migration are to:

- Assess progress made in achieving migration-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 10.7 (facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration) and 10.c (reducing the transaction costs of remittances), while highlighting the cross-cutting nature of migration in the 2030 Agenda<sup>2</sup> and taking into account the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,
- Identify good practices and innovative approaches in addressing migration-related issues in VNRs,
- Explore interlinkages in monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the [Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration](#) (GCM), and in particular assess the role VNRs in preparing for, and following up on, the first [International Migration Review Forum](#) (IMRF), to be held during the first half of 2022.

**Scenario**

- Opening: Bangladesh (3 min.)
- Remarks: DG IOM & Coordinator of the UN Network on Migration (4 min.)
- Panel 1: Integrating migration in VNRs: Country experiences, lessons learnt (40 min.)
  - Moderator: ILO (2 min.)
  - Four national experts discussing VNRs<sup>3</sup> (4 pers. \* 3 min. \* 2 rounds = 24 min.)
  - Moderated interactive discussion / Q and A (14 min.)
- Panel 2: Multistakeholder panel: From the HLPF to the IMRF (37 min.)
  - Moderator: UNDP (2 min.)
  - Mexico, a representative from (a) UN Regional Commissions, (b) civil society, (c) academia and (d) local government (5 pers. \* 2.5 min \* 2 rounds = 25 min.)
  - Moderated interactive discussion / Q and A (10 min.)

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<sup>1</sup> ILO, IOM, UN DESA and UNDP are co-leads for Thematic Priority 2 in the [2021-2022 Network Workplan](#) on “Utilizing the GCM to realize the SDGs and reduce inequalities”.

<sup>2</sup> The 2021 HLPF will review the following SDGs: 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 3 (good health and well-being), 8 (decent work and economic growth), 10 (reduced inequalities), 12 (responsible consumption and production), 13 (climate action), 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), and 17 (partnerships)

<sup>3</sup> To be selected from those highlighted in the Annex



- Key take-away messages: UN DESA (3 min.)
- Closing: Ireland (3 min.)

## **Questions for panelists**

### Panel I, round I (4 panelists \* 3 minutes each = 12 minutes)

Were you able to assess progress made in achieving migration-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 10.7 (facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration) and 10.c (reducing the transaction costs of remittances)? Have you been able to assess the impact of migration and remittances across the other eight SDGs being reviewed by the 2021 HLPF? Have you been able to assess the impact of COVID-19 on migration and remittance flows? What key steps did you take to include migration-related issues in your VNR? What lessons did you learn and what recommendations can you make?

### Panel I, round II (4 panelists \* 3 minutes each = 12 minutes)

What sources were used in compiling qualitative and quantitative information on migration-related issues in your VNR? What were the challenges you encountered in compiling this information? Were you able to follow a whole-of-government / whole-of-society approach in selecting migration-related priorities? Did you consult with, or receive any support from, the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Network on Migration, in preparing your VNR? What lessons did you learn and what recommendations can you make?

### Panel II, round I (5 panelists \* 2.5 minutes = 12.5 minutes)

What progress has been made in achieving migration-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 10.7 (facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration) and 10.c (reducing the transaction costs of remittances), what is the impact of migration and remittances across the other eight SDGs being reviewed by the 2021 HLPF and/or what is the impact of COVID-19 on migration and remittance flows? What sources of qualitative and quantitative information on migration-related issues, including remittances, are available? How can the quantity, quality and use of these sources of information be improved?

### Panel II, round II (5 panelists \* 2.5 minutes = 12.5 minutes)

What role did or can the GCM play in preparing VNRs? What role did or can the GCM play in the regional fora on sustainable development (RFSDs)? How can future HLPFs take into account the results of the IMRF? How can VNRs contribute to assessing the status of implementation of the GCM? How can countries link VNRs with the GCM national implementation plans? How can migration-related SDG indicators be leveraged for monitoring the implementation of the GCM? How can stakeholders, including civil society, academia and local governments, best contribute to the preparation of VNRs?



## ANNEX

**Blue:** Countries that will present a VNR in 2021, are a GCM Champion country and GoF member

**Green:** Countries that will present a VNR in 2021 and are a GCM Champion country

**Grey:** Countries that will present a VNR in 2021 and are a GoF member

**Yellow:** GCM Champion country and a GoF member

The following 44 countries are presenting their VNRs in 2021 (10 for the first time, 24 for the second time\* and 10 for the third time\*\*):

⇒ Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan\*\*, Bahamas\*, Bhutan\*, Bolivia, Cabo Verde\*, **Chad\***, China\*, **Colombia\*\***, Cuba, Cyprus\*, Czech Republic\*, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark\*, Djibouti, Dominican Republic\*, Egypt\*\*, Germany\*, Guatemala\*\*, **Indonesia\*\***, **Iraq\***, Japan\*, Lao People's Democratic Republic\*, Madagascar\*, Malaysia\*, Marshall Islands, **Mexico\*\***, Myanmar, Namibia\*, Nicaragua, Niger\*\*, **Norway\***, Pakistan\*, Paraguay\*, Qatar\*\*, San Marino, Sierra Leone\*\*, Spain\*, **Sweden\***, **Thailand\***, Tunisia\*, Uruguay\*\* and Zimbabwe\*

The following 22 countries are GCM Champion countries:<sup>4</sup>

⇒ **Bangladesh**, Cambodia, **Canada**, **Chad**, Colombia, **Ecuador**, **El Salvador**, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, **Indonesia**, **Iraq**, Kenya, **Mexico**, **Morocco**, **Nepal**, Nigeria, Philippines, **Portugal**, Senegal, **Thailand**

The following 31 permanent missions to the United Nations are members of the Group of Friends on migration (co-chairs marked with an \*):

⇒ Argentina, Australia, **Bangladesh\***, Benin\*, **Canada**, **Colombia**, Costa Rica, Cyprus, **Ecuador**, **El Salvador**, Eritrea, EU Delegation, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, **Honduras**, India, Ireland\*, Liechtenstein, **Mexico\***, **Morocco**, **Nepal**, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, **Portugal**, **Sweden**, Turkey and United Kingdom

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<sup>4</sup> <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/champion-countries-initiative#>