

IMRF SUBMISSION¹

An overview of IOM Support for the
Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe,
Orderly and Regular Migration

¹ This report is unedited.

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INTRODUCTION

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration² (GCM), adopted in December 2018, is the first inter-governmental negotiated agreement covering all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner. IOM, as the UN Migration Agency, has since made the GCM a guiding framework for its operation and support to Member States, the UN system, and stakeholders.

The Secretary-General established the UN Network on Migration to ensure effective, timely, coordinated UN system-wide support to Member States in their implementation, follow-up, and review of the GCM, with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) as its Coordinator and Secretariat.

Since the launch of the UN Network on Migration in December 2018, IOM has been building up its capacities and structures to fulfil the new tasks and responsibilities as Network Coordinator and Secretariat at global, regional and country levels. At the same time, IOM has been leveraging its institutional policies and frameworks, internal structures and operational assistance to support the effort toward achieving GCM objectives.

This report is the first exercise IOM has undertaken to take stock of its support for the implementation of the GCM based on existing data and information. It will inform a comprehensive analysis of IOM's work and the development of a more strategic approach for IOM programming in line with IOM's Strategic Vision in the next phase of the GCM implementation following the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) in May 2022.

This report consists of two chapters: Chapter I describes IOM's role and activities as Coordinator and Secretariat of the UN Network on Migration operating at the country, regional and global levels. Chapter II is dedicated to the support IOM provides to Member States and stakeholders in advancing the GCM and the 23 objectives through implementing projects and activities at the country, regional and global levels. The structure of Chapter II follows the clusters of GCM objectives outlined in the IMRF modalities resolution (A/RES/73/326, para. 21) and contains an additional information box on the COVID-19 pandemic response that has contributed to the achievement of GCM objectives. Chapter II also includes a selection of existing practices that showcase concrete examples of support provided to Member States and stakeholders by IOM.

² United Nations, General Assembly, Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (A/RES/73/195).

METHODOLOGY³

The research is based on a desk review of available resources,⁴ such as project progress reports, evaluations and overarching reports, including biennial Reports of the Secretary-General on GCM implementation 2020 and 2021, IOM Annual Reports from 2019 and 2020 which drew upon Institutional Questionnaires, 2020 and 2022 World Migration Reports, Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) reports and country profiles. The IOM Strategic Vision, IOM's overarching thematic strategies, and regional and country strategies were analysed to identify how the GCM is reflected.

The key part of the analysis builds on IOM's internal GCM 'Wizard'. IOM tracks its project implementation through a dedicated Project Information and Management Application platform (PRIMA). A new PRIMA 'Wizard' feature tracks IOM's progress against external frameworks such as the GCM and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs). PRIMA users can tag all project outcomes with GCM objectives and SDG targets based on the pre-selection provided by this 'Wizard' feature. It is to be noted this remains an optional feature.

Additionally, the analysis of Member State reports of the GCM Regional Reviews 2020 and 2021 and Voluntary National Reviews of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable (HLPF) 2020 and 2021 were considered.

The review of the available information, collection of additional information not captured in the available datasets as well as the subsequent collection of practices of IOM GCM-related interventions was supported by conducting structured interviews. A total of 64 structured online interviews were conducted with 97 key informants from IOM country and regional offices and headquarters. IOM's mandate and breadth of activities that cover all aspects of migration allow IOM to reach and cover all 23 objectives of the GCM. This report categorizes all of IOM's activities as advancing the GCM and makes no distinction between IOM's typical programmes and projects designed before the establishment of the GCM and those which have been developed since the GCM's adoption and those dedicated to specific processes and activities associated with GCM advancement.

³ With the purpose of illustrating IOM's support provided to Member States and stakeholders in GCM implementation, a variety of GCM-related practices is presented in this report. The distinction between IOM's activities that started before and post the adoption of the GCM is not made as all IOM projects support safe, orderly and regular migration. Despite the fact that the IOM initiatives that started before December 2018 were not inspired by the GCM, the GCM 360-degree vision allows IOM to contribute to the achievement of the GCM objectives even through the projects that were not initially designed using the GCM framework.

⁴ See Annex 2 for a visualization of key frameworks and resources used for the purposes of this report.

METHODOLOGY LIMITATIONS

The tagging of IOM projects against GCM objectives in PRIMA is on voluntary basis and therefore the data is likely to be incomplete. Nonetheless the exercise of collecting this data represents the first step in assessing IOM's support for GCM implementation which can shed light on broad trends.

CHAPTER I:

SUPPORT IN GCM IMPLEMENTATION AS COORDINATOR AND SECRETARIAT OF THE UN NETWORK ON MIGRATION (UNNM) AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

I.1. UN NETWORK ON MIGRATION COORDINATION AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The United Nations Network on Migration (Network) was established by the Secretary-General in May 2018 to support Member States in the implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM. The Network also serves as a platform for better coordination and cooperation on the questions of international migration in all its dimensions, while aligning with the “360-degree” vision of the GCM and its guiding principles⁵.

IOM acts as Coordinator and Secretariat of all the constituent parts of the Network and its workstreams/working arrangements. The Director General of IOM serves in the capacity of Network Coordinator and is responsible for, among other functions, fostering collaboration and consensus among the Network’s members, identifying priorities and opportunities for action, engaging its stakeholders, and ensuring the smooth functioning of the Network.

IOM established the Network’s Secretariat under the authority of the Director General of IOM and quickly scaled up resources in order to sufficiently staff the Secretariat. It is staffed by IOM while being open to for secondments from UN system partners (UNHCR and UNICEF have provided secondees already). The Secretariat is responsible for servicing the work of the Network by providing support to all the constituent parts; supporting collaboration between the constituent parts of the Network, its members, the UN system coordination mechanisms and its partners; as

⁵ Guiding principles of the GCM are: people-centred, international cooperation, national sovereignty, rule of law and due process, sustainable development, human rights, gender-responsive, child-sensitive, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches.

well as coordinating and facilitating the Network's capacity building mechanism and reporting activities.

The first UN Network on Migration work plan (2019-2020)⁶ supported the kick-start of several workstreams of priorities as endorsed by the Principals of the Executive Committee. It also established the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund and supported the preparations to establish the Migration Network Hub to operationalize the Capacity Building Mechanism called for in the GCM. Through the second and ongoing work plan (2021-2022),⁷ the focus has been moved to stronger support on the ground and preparing for the IMRF in 2022. In line with its core and thematic priorities spelt out in the workplans, the Network establishes workgroups and workstreams to support the operational rollout of the GCM. These workstreams reflect a determination of important, time-bound contributions towards the realisation of the GCM objectives by delivering specific outputs, and their activity is intended to wrap up once these outputs are delivered.

While participating in the work of all eight working groups, IOM co-leads five of them. As chair of the [Core Working Group 1.2: Knowledge Platform and Connection Hub](#) (CWG 1.2), IOM manages the Migration Network Hub⁸ which brings together a repository of existing evidence, practices and initiatives and hosts interactive discussion spaces. IOM's Country and Regional Offices, as well as HQ Departments, have been facilitating the collection of established practices to be submitted to the Repository of Practices. Members of CWG 1.2 convene on a monthly basis to advance the workplan of this group.

IOM, together with UNDP, co-chairs [Core Working Group 2.1: Stronger UN System for GCM Implementation](#) (CWG 2.1). The CWG 2.1 lead the development of training for UN Country Teams (UNCTs) to integrating migration into Common Country Analyses (CCAs) and Cooperation Frameworks (CFs). The training presents migration as a cross-cutting issue inline with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development aligning implementation of the GCM with the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The training articulates connections between the GCM and the 2030 Agenda across all thematic areas, supporting UNCTs to integrate migration, through GCM implementation, into their daily work. The training has been piloted virtually in six countries (Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Morocco, Thailand and Ukraine), reaching more than 120 participants from 23 UN agencies and Resident Coordinator Offices.

IOM, furthermore, together with OHCHR and UNDP, co-leads [Core Working Group 2.2: GCM National Implementation Plans](#) (CWG 2.2). The CWG 2.1 led the development of the

⁶ UN Network on Migration, Workplan 2019-2020. Available at https://migrationnetwork.un.org/sites/g/files/tmzbd1416/files/documents/final_nw_workplan.pdf.

⁷ UN Network on Migration, Workplan 2021-2022 Priorities. Available at https://migrationnetwork.un.org/sites/g/files/tmzbd1416/files/docs/network_-_workplan_2021-2022_final.pdf.

⁸ UNNM, Migration Network Hub. Available at <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/hub>.

implementation of the GCM. Guidance for governments and all relevant stakeholders⁹ is being developed. The guidance has been designed as a flexible, self-guided reference document that recognizes that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to GCM implementation and provides methodology and resources to support Member States with GCM implementation, whether through the design of a dedicated national implementation plan or by integrating these efforts into other existing processes.

Together with ILO, IOM co-leads the [Bilateral Labour Migration Agreements Thematic Workstream](#). In 2022, the “Guidance on Bilateral Labour Migration Agreements” was launched.

IOM co-leads the [Thematic Working Group on Return and Reintegration](#) together with OHCHR and UNICEF. In 2021, the group issued a Position Paper “Ensuring Safe and Dignified Return and Sustainable Reintegration.”

IOM, together with ILO, co-leads the [Thematic Priority 4: Migration in the Context of Disasters, Climate Change and Environmental Degradation](#), which was launched in 2021. The group has worked at the inter-agency level and with States to raise ambitious actions to address migration and displacement linked to disasters, climate change and environmental degradation in the key policy processes, most notably in the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the 26th Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC and the IMRF.

Since January 2021, IOM through the UN Network Secretariat is implementing a joint EU-UN Partnership for Migration Capacity Building Programme. The project supports country Networks globally to implement the GCM by rolling out the tools developed by the Core Working Groups 1.2, 2.1 and 2.2. El Salvador and Ghana have been selected as focal countries in the Latin America and Africa regions respectively, while the focal country in the Asia-Pacific will be determined in 2022. This partnership helps the government and stakeholders to bring migration in alignment with existing international frameworks and foster experience sharing and thereby contribute toward the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and COVID-19 socio-economic recovery plans.

In order to ensure effective coordination on migration at regional and national levels, the Network Secretariat through IOM regional and country offices supports the establishment and functioning of regional and country networks. As of March 2022, over 60 country-level networks have been established, as well as six regional networks in all regions with IOM being the co-chair of all. The regional and country networks on migration provide support to Member States in the implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM ensures a broader discussion and mainstreaming of migration in UNCT and related work. Apart from establishing regional and country networks,

⁹ UNNM, Implementing the GCM: Guidance for governments and all relevant stakeholders. Available at https://migrationnetwork.un.org/sites/g/files/tmzbdl416/files/docs/gcm_implementation_guide_finalized_revised_15_october.pdf.

IOM led the organization of five regional reviews of the GCM, through the regional networks, in 2020 and 2021.

At the national level, IOM offices supported Member States with national consultations on the GCM and in preparation of national voluntary reviews for the IMRF. In 2021, 50 IOM Offices, across all regions supported governments in drafting their national voluntary reviews and in 43 of those cases, IOM's inputs were reflected. In the period 2020 and 2021, over 90 reports were submitted. This builds on IOM offices' support to Member States, including preparatory actions, for the GCM Regional Reviews in Europe and North America, Africa, the Arab Region, Asia and the Pacific; and Latin America that took place in 2020 and 2021, which engaged various stakeholders. As the Coordinator of the Network, IOM has further strengthened its policy and operational support at Headquarters and across the regional and country offices to support UNCTs and Member States in the implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM.

1.2. CHAMPION COUNTRIES INITIATIVE

The IOM Director General launched the Champion Countries Initiative in 2020. This initiative seeks to establish a non-exclusive voluntary group of States to lead and help demonstrate the value of the GCM as well as showcase concrete examples of how to best implement, follow up and review the GCM. Champion Countries receive support from and partner with the UNNM in GCM implementation including piloting the tools and guidance the UNNM develops through the workstreams. As of March 2022, 31 Member States¹⁰ are part of the Champion Countries Initiative with participants from all regions. They have been strongly advocating for the UNNM's work as well, for example, for the Migration Network Hub and Migration MPTF. The Champions has been leading many of the IMRF preparations, globally through, for example, the pledging initiative, launching of the Secretary-General's Report, IMRF migration dialogues, as well as regionally, for example, a series of webinars by the champions in Asia and the Pacific, regional meeting in Europe and in Americas. In March 2021, Morocco hosted an Informal consultation on the role of champion countries in the implementation of the GCM. IOM supports the initiatives of the champions on the ground, along with the Network members.

¹⁰ As of 2022, the composition of the Champion countries initiative is the following: Asia and the Pacific (Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand), Africa (Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, The Gambia), Central America, North America, and the Caribbean (Canada, Costa Rica, Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras), South America (Colombia, Ecuador), and South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Azerbaijan) and European Economic Area (Luxembourg, Portugal) and the Middle East (Iraq).

1.3. MIGRATION MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND

The Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (the Migration MPTF) was called for by the GCM and was established by the Network in May 2019 as a part of the GCM Capacity-Building Mechanism. The Migration MPTF is the first pooled funding instrument focusing on migration and its primary goal is to assist Member States in their national implementation of the GCM.

The governance structure of the Fund consists of a Steering Committee, a Fund Management Unit and the Administrative Agent. The Steering Committee¹¹ is a governing body of the Migration MPTF that is chaired by the Director General of IOM as the Coordinator of the Network. The Fund Management Unit, which is a part of the Network Secretariat structure, supports the operational functioning of the Fund, provides management support to the Steering Committee and liaises with the Administrative Agent. In its turn, the Administrative Agent in the face of the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office serves as the “trustee” of the Fund to channel the funding.

The Migration MPTF is fully aligned with the GCM’s guiding principles that are reflected in all areas of the Fund’s work including in its results monitoring framework. Since its establishment, the Fund received 113 joint proposal submissions from over 80 different countries or regions. Of these, twelve are currently under implementation and 34 others have been positively assessed by the Steering Committee and placed in the pipeline, ready to be implemented when resources become available. In line with the 360-degree approach, the twelve joint programmes selected for implementation constitute a geographically and thematically balanced portfolio. As of 31 December 2021, total contributions received from 13 donors amount to approximately USD 28 million. An overview of the activities it supports can be found in Annex 3.

1.4. MIGRATION NETWORK HUB

In close collaboration with members of CWG 1.2, IOM Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) took the lead in designing and managing the Migration Network Hub (the Hub) that was launched in March 2021 as a virtual interactive platform where Member States, stakeholders and experts can access information and share their expertise on migration issues. The operational capacities of the Hub are provided by the GMDAC alongside the Network Secretariat.

¹¹ The Steering Committee, the governing body of the Migration MPTF, is chaired by the Director General of IOM as the Coordinator of the Network and comprises 12 members on a rotating basis: 3 representatives of the UN Network on Migration (currently UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO), 3 donors (Germany, Mexico and the United Kingdom), 3 countries of origin, transit and destination (currently Ghana, Iraq and the Philippines), and 3 stakeholders (currently the International Detention Coalition, the Special Rapporteur on human rights of migrants and the Mayors Migration Council).

The Hub offers open online discussion spaces where the interested persons can interact, share knowledge and learn on topics related to the implementation of the GCM. In the preparation for the IMRF, the Network created a dedicated discussion space on the Hub platform in order to ensure the widest possible engagement of Member States and stakeholders.

Through its Practice Repository, the Hub showcases replicable practices demonstrating what governments, organizations and people around the world are doing to implement the GCM at local, regional, national and global levels. As of April 2022, the Practice Repository contains 104 practices that can be explored and used as an inspiration for replication.

Moreover, the Hub in cooperation with IMISCOE, the International Migration Research Network, established an Experts Database that provides access to a range of migration experts from around the world such as academics, researchers, independent scholars, data analysts and journalists.

From January to April 2022, the Hub's platform also served as a space to host the Migration Dialogue series – an open and inclusive space where Member States and all other relevant stakeholders had an opportunity to discuss approaches towards achieving effective, principled migration governance benefiting all. The Migration Dialogues comprised of online discussions or webinars on the clusters of GCM objectives to be covered under each of the four roundtables of the IMRF 2022, as well as gaps and challenges relevant to the implementation of the GCM.

CHAPTER II:

SUPPORT IN GCM IMPLEMENTATION THROUGH IOM PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

IOM is a highly decentralised organization with the majority of staff, funding, and projects largely designed and implemented by country offices. IOM has supported Member States and stakeholders that have adopted the GCM in implementing GCM since its adoption. The GCM constitutes one of the key frameworks for IOM along with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Agenda 2030)¹² guiding IOM's activities, as outlined in the IOM Strategic Vision¹³.

The categorisation of GCM objectives into each sub-chapter follows the structure of the IMRF Roundtable events as per IMRF modalities resolution (A/RES/73/326). The analysis of the data extracted from the PRIMA GCM 'Wizard' identified a total of 668 projects¹⁴ that are tagged against GCM objectives. The tagging against GCM objectives in PRIMA GCM "Wizard" was set up as optional and limited to up to four GCM objectives per project outcome, which means that it cannot be viewed as comprehensive.

Each of the sub-chapters contains an infographic that presents a general breakdown of the number of GCM referencing in projects per objective.

Chapter II presents IOM's work and achievements in supporting the GCM at the policy, research, capacity building and operations across all levels: national, regional and global. Since the adoption of the GCM, IOM has led the multilateral and bilateral policy discussions on supporting the Member States and stakeholders in advancing the GCM objectives, as well as in the GCM regional reviews and regional consultative processes. IOM has provided advice to the governments on aligning and incorporating the GCM objectives and guiding principles in national policies. Moreover, IOM has cooperated with inter-state consultation mechanisms on migration and prepared various tools to support their reorientation towards the GCM. With regard to research activities, IOM has developed or supported the development of GCM-themed research products, reports, thematic papers and blogs across all levels of the organization. In the capacity building area, IOM has provided

¹² United Nations, General Assembly, Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1 of 21 October 2015).

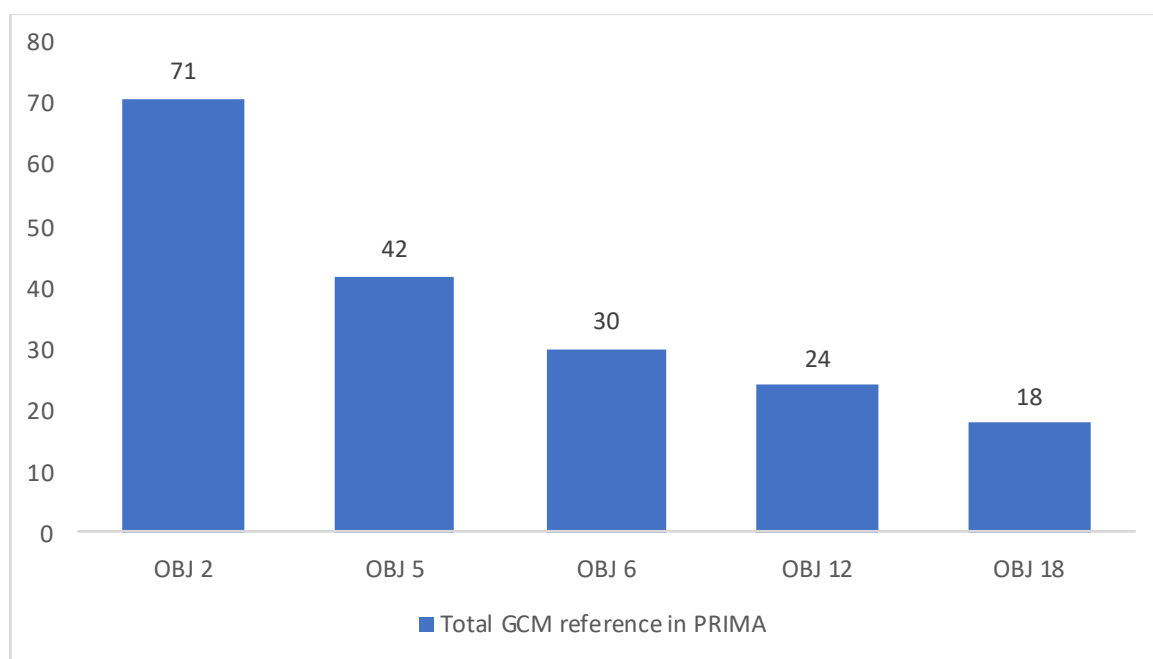
¹³ IOM, Council, Strategic Vision 2019–2023: Setting a course for IOM (C/110/INF/1 of 15 November 2019).

¹⁴ For the purposes of this assessment, only activated projects are taken into account including projects that have ended.

numerous trainings to government officials, the civil society, academia and the media on topics in relation to GCM objectives. These activities have been supported by the development of training materials and tools, including e-learning. At operational level, as referenced in Chapter II, IOM continues the rollout of projects and activities that support Member States and stakeholders in achieving the GCM across all objectives.

2.1. CLUSTER I (GCM OBJECTIVES 2, 5, 6, 12 AND 18)

TABLE I.1: GCM REFERENCING IN PROJECTS ACCORDING TO PRIMA GCM “WIZARD”



Globally 185 projects were tagged against GCM objectives under Cluster I, representing 27 per cent of all projects tagged against GCM objectives on GCM Wizard between December 2019 and March 2022. The majority of projects under Cluster I were tagged against Objectives 2 and 5.

Objective 2’s prominence in this cluster may be representative of IOM Institutional strengthening of the MECR portfolio. In 2021 IOM put forward its [Institutional Strategy on Migration, Environment and Climate Change 2021-2030](#) that aims to guide IOM’s efforts to strengthen its capacity to develop and implement a comprehensive approach to migration in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters in line with the objectives of the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the GCM, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Nansen Agenda for the Protection in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change. The Strategy identifies four priority areas of engagement including migration policy, operations, knowledge provision, and a convening role. The Strategy is the institutional guidance to advancing GCM objectives 2 and 5 and creating linkages with other GCM objectives.

IOM is a significant voice in all key global and regional multilateral initiatives, including the [UN Network on Migration \(UNNM\)](#), the [UNFCCC Task Force on Displacement](#), the [Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative \(CADRI\)](#), the [Platform on Disaster Displacement \(PDD\)](#), the [Camp](#)

[Management and Camp Coordination Cluster \(CCCCM\)](#), and the [Migrants in Countries in Crisis \(MICIC\) Initiative](#). In particular, IOM co-leads with ILO and UNFCCC the [UNNM Thematic Priority 4](#) on migration in the context of disasters, climate change and environmental degradation.

To support capacity building at the global level to achieve **objective 2**, IOM has continued the roll-out of its capacity development programme on Migration, Environment and Climate Change. The objective of the training is to build the capacity of policymakers and practitioners to factor migration into climate change and development policies, as well as facilitate policy exchange on migration, environment and climate change. Moreover, IOM co-leads the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI) in 2021 and 2022 – a global partnership that helps countries reduce disaster and climate risks by mobilizing the capacities and expertise of the partner organizations.

Examples of projects to advance objective 2 include a programme “Addressing Drivers and Facilitating Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in the Contexts of Disasters and Climate Change in the IGAD Region” which is the only migration and climate change programme funded by the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund. The programme is co-lead by IOM, ILO, IGAD, UNHCR and PDD/UNOPS and aims to improve regional and national migration governance in the context of the adverse environment and climate-related impacts by generating data, updating national migration and mobility policies, strengthening preparedness and response capacities, and supporting the implementation of human mobility frameworks directed at the availability and flexibility of regular migration pathways.¹⁵

Objective 2: Addressing climate-induced mobility of indigenous communities in Paraguay

“Strengthening the Capacities of the Government of Paraguay to Address the Mobility of Indigenous Communities in the Context of Climate Change, Environmental Degradation, and Deforestation” is a project implemented by IOM in coordination with the Paraguayan Indigenous Institute (INDI) supported by the IOM Development Fund under objective 2 of the GCM. The project entails a **whole-of-government and multiagency approach and engagement** and aims to contribute to the prevention of forced migration of indigenous communities in Paraguay caused by climate change, environmental degradation and deforestation. IOM’s engagement and contribution are based on protocols of consultation and free, prior and informed consent of the involved indigenous communities. The project engages with four communities as beneficiaries and benefits 218 families reaching a total of approximately 1090 people.

¹⁵ UN Network on Migration, Migration-MPTF, Regional IGAD Programme. Available at https://migrationnetwork.un.org/sites/g/files/tmzbdl416/files/resources_files/regional_igad_1.pdf.

The project carries out a participatory diagnosis with indigenous communities on forced migration in contexts of climate change, environmental degradation and deforestation, considering socioeconomic, labour, education, health and food aspects. These inputs will serve as a basis for the development and implementation of a pilot programme to comprehensively support initiatives selected by the four indigenous communities participating in the project. The pilot program, coordinated by INDI officials, will be designed with a **gender perspective** and considering its impact on the rights to land, territories, life and traditional livelihoods.

The Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF) is a long-standing framework that has been utilised to support Member States and partners to better prepare for, respond to and recover from migration crises. In 2021, the MCOF was supplemented by an Addendum that enables IOM to use the MCOF to adapt to internal and international developments since 2012 and to remain fit for purpose.

Under **objective 5**, IOM has continued its efforts in facilitating access to regular migration pathways as part of the promotion of safe, orderly and regular migration with government counterparts and private sector partners. As highlighted in the second Secretary-General Report on the GCM, the international community has been working towards fulfilling its commitments to expand and diversify pathways for safe, orderly and regular migration. In 2019, IOM established 56 partnerships to assist States with migration management policies and systems to implement well-administered visa and entry schemes. Moreover, 15 partnerships were established to assist governments in support of pathways for regular migration, and 12 agreements were signed to facilitate the verification of visa-related documentation.¹⁶ Objective 5 also includes safe migration pathways for persons affected by sudden and slow onset environmental change, and IOM has been active in promoting humanitarian visas for disaster settings and mapping planned relocation practices as last resource options in climate change, disaster and degradation settings.

Through the 3 Year Implementation Plan of Action for the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) in Africa 2020-2022, the African Union plans to develop regular pathway migration schemes to foster decent job opportunities in foreign job markets in the agricultural, domestic and construction sectors by concluding Bilateral and Multilateral Labour Agreements, memoranda of understanding and fair recruitment schemes in cooperation with the UN Network on Migration as one of the key stakeholders.¹⁷

Family reunification is one of the cornerstones of regular migration under **objective 5** of the GCM. On behalf of Germany, IOM facilitates family reunification through its Family Assistance Programme

¹⁶ IOM, Annual Report 2019, (Geneva, 2020), para. 100.

¹⁷ African Union, 3 Year Implementation Plan of Action for the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) in Africa (2020-2022), p. 18.

(FAP)¹⁸. The scope of the support offered by IOM's FAP has expanded in recent years to include dedicated centres in ten countries, providing direct assistance for migrants in vulnerable situations seeking to reunite with their families.

In relation to **objective 6**, IOM has continued to promote ethical recruitment of migrant workers and protection of their rights, including through the International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS)¹⁹ and cooperation with public and private sectors. IRIS is a flagship initiative created in 2018 by IOM and a coalition of partners from government, civil society and the private sector. In December 2020, under the IRIS initiative, IOM launched a Global Policy Network to promote ethical recruitment and the protection of migrant workers. The Global Policy Network brings together policy-makers, regulators and practitioners to collectively identify solutions to vulnerabilities and gaps in protection, highlight promising practices and address complex challenges.

Objective 6: Mainstreaming ethical recruitment principles in the Philippines

From August 2020 to February 2022, IOM supported the government of the Philippines in mainstreaming ethical recruitment principles through the “Aligning Lenses Toward Ethical Recruitment” (ALTER) project.

Despite various risks, the project generated significant buy-in for ethical recruitment initiatives and the mainstreaming of an ethical recruitment framework in the Philippine context. As part of this project, IOM launched and completed an extensive research study on recruitment policies, processes and practices from the Philippines to the Gulf Cooperation Countries which helped in designing project interventions and recommendations.

Moreover, this project supported capacity-building by conducting training workshops on ethical recruitment for the Government as well as CSOs, trade unions and diaspora organizations. Under this project, the National Action Plan on Fair and Ethical recruitment was developed and launched, which currently guides policymaking and consultations on ethical recruitment initiatives. The project's dialogue and advocacy efforts contributed to a major policy shift that led to the adoption of a law on the Department of Migrant Workers Act (Republic Act 11641).

¹⁸ IOM, Family Assistance Programme. Available at https://www.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbd1486/files/our_work/DMM/IBM/04family_assistance_programme_info_sheet.pdf.

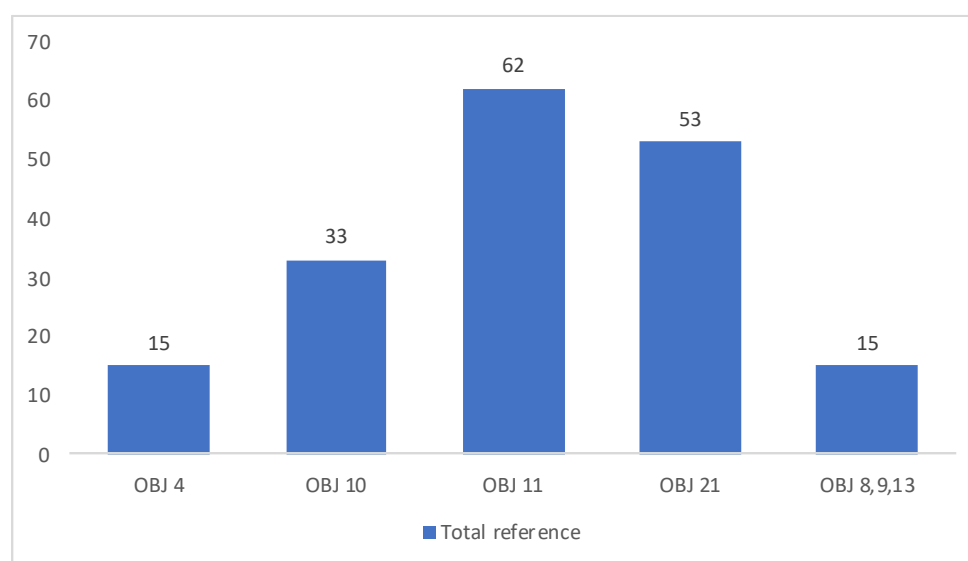
¹⁹ IRIS - is IOM's flagship initiative to promote ethical recruitment of migrant workers. More info is available at <https://iris.iom.int/>.

IOM has been supporting Member States in achieving their commitments under **objective 12** inter alia through Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS).²⁰ MIDAS is a cost-effective customizable Border Management Information System that is intended to improve the facilitation and control of borders, support data sharing and policy planning while capturing traveller’s biographic and biometric data. There are currently 20 countries that implement the MIDAS system in Central and South America, Africa as well as in Asia and the Pacific. In **Somalia**, around 20 points of entry implement the MIDAS to collect, process, store and analyse traveller information in real time across an entire border network.

Under **objective 18**, IOM supports Member States in developing approaches to labour mobility and skills recognition as skills-based migration is highly relevant in development contexts. In **Cambodia**²¹ and **Lesotho**²², IOM is contributing to socio-economic recovery through improved skill training and access to employment opportunities for migrant workers impacted by COVID-19 related job losses.

2.2. CLUSTER II (OBJECTIVES 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 AND 21)

TABLE 2.1: GCM REFERENCING IN PROJECTS ACCORDING TO PRIMA GCM “WIZARD”



²⁰ MIDAS is a user-friendly and customizable Border Management Information System. With the capability to collect, store, and analyze traveller information in real time and across an entire border network. More information is available at <https://www.iom.int/midas>.

²¹ Source: Prima GCM "Wizard".

²² Source: interview with Country Office representative.

Globally 178 projects were tagged against GCM objectives under Cluster II, representing 26 per cent of all projects tagged against GCM objectives on GCM Wizard between December 2019 and March 2022. The majority of projects under Cluster II were tagged against Objectives 11, 10 and 21.

In relation to the objectives under cluster II, IOM has sought to strengthen guidance, advocacy and activities around the issue of legal identity through the development of IOM's Legal Identity Strategy²³. The Strategy has direct linkages to Objective 4 of the GCM as well as indirect linkages with many others. The Strategy guides IOM's institutional development on several GCM objectives and serves as a guidance and reference point for IOM's engagement with Member States, UN entities and stakeholders.

IOM is engaged in supporting Member States on the question of legal identity in a variety of settings: identity management for cross-border mobility, access to services both in countries of origin and destination as well as in the humanitarian space. As a UN-wide effort, IOM is also an active member of the UN Legal Identity Agenda (UNLIA) Taskforce, engaging in collaborative work related to legal identity with other UN agencies. This includes the recent launch of the IOM-UNDP Guide for [Free Movement Zones](#), ICAO's Trip Strategy, and inter-agency collaboration on travel and trade initiatives, along with a number of high-profile capacity building projects. The work of the UNLIA Taskforce is also linked to the UN Common Agenda, which underpins the right to identity as a central tenant to access justice for all.

Objective 4: Addressing identity management challenges in Sierra Leone

As part of the “Strengthening CRVS in Sierra Leone to ensure Legal Identity for All” project, IOM with UNDP and UNICEF supports the Government of Sierra Leone in overcoming gaps in identity management and migration management infrastructure. Collecting and collating the biographic and biometric data of foreigners and citizens, and undocumented migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, including vulnerable groups such as women, children and the disabled, and ensuring this data informs identity management and migration policies and decision making are major challenges in Sierra Leone.

This joint project aims to create an enabling environment for implementing the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) reforms and the CRVS National Strategic Plan 2019-2024. Specifically, IOM's role is in supporting the development of standard operating procedures (SOPs) for full implementation of the National Civil Registration Act and to improve coordination among stakeholders for effective implementation of the CRVS National Strategic Plan. The development of SOPs integrates gender-sensitive provisions in the legal, policy and procedural reform

²³ IOM, Institutional Strategy on Legal Identity (PUB/2021/190/R of 3 December 2021). Available at <https://publications.iom.int/books/iom-institutional-strategy-legal-identity>.

initiatives that enable vital event registration and conferral of legal identity to refugee, migrant, returned migrant, displaced and stateless populations.

As pointed out by the Secretary-General in his Second Report on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, Member States have yet to translate the commitment to save lives and establish coordinated efforts on missing migrants into meaningful action. A similar trend can be evidenced by analysing the IOM projects tagged in PRIMA with only one project contributing to **objective 8** (see Annex 6). However, this may be reflective of the voluntary nature of the tagging. Examples of support to advance objective 8 include support in delivering critical life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable population affected by the La Soufrière volcano eruption in **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**²⁴.

IOM provides support to Member States, UN entities and partners through its contribution to the knowledge and data on objective 8, both through the [Missing Migrants Project](#), [Counter-Trafficking Data Collaborative](#), and the [Displacement Tracking Matrix's \(DTM\) Flow Monitoring](#). IOM's Missing Migrants Project also increasingly works on capacity building with government and NGO actors, identifying best practices in terms of policy and practice on missing migrants and their families, in coordination with other relevant agencies such as the ICRC.

On **objectives 9 and 10**, IOM supports States in building and strengthening their capacity to intervene and disrupt migrants smuggling and trafficking in persons operations. This is done by engaging and cooperating with legislative bodies, law enforcement agencies and establishing border control measures. IOM's counter-smuggling activities are focused around four pillars such as: providing protection and assistance to smuggled migrants, addressing the causes of migrant smuggling; enhancing states' capacity to disrupt the activities of migrant smugglers; and promoting research and data collection on migrant smuggling. IOM is working towards engaging States towards a stronger commitment to addressing the misleading application of international standards at the domestic level to counter the smuggling of migrants, intertwined with irregular migration and, where applicable, with trafficking in persons too. In Argentina, IOM has been supporting the Biennial National Action Plan to combat trafficking in persons by collaborating in the development and improvement of management systems, enhancing victims' assistance and the access to judiciary system. Additionally, IOM also contributes to strengthening the capacities in intersectoral working groups.

IOM promotes State cooperation for effective and impactful collaboration, and the meaningful multi-stakeholder, whole-of-government, whole-of-society and cross-sectoral partnerships, including the financial and technology sectors, by participating and engaging Member States in inter-agency fora such as Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and the Global Action Plan

²⁴ Source: PRIMA GCM "Wizard".

Against Trafficking in Persons, Alliance 8.7 and the 2030 Agenda, Global Compacts and Regional Processes.

Objectives 9 and 10: Better Migration Management Programme

The Better Migration Management Programme has been developed in 2016 to address trafficking in persons (TiP) and smuggling of migrants (SoM) from and within the East and Horn of Africa region focusing on Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda. This regional, multi-partner programme is co-founded by the European Union Trust Fund for Africa and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and is managed by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit.

As part of the Better Migration Management Programme in South Sudan, IOM has been providing technical assistance to the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration, South Sudan's whole-of-government response to migration management. A key output of this engagement is the provision of technical assistance to the Technical Task Force to Combat Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants to prevent, reduce and mitigate the risk of TiP and SoM as well as to protect vulnerable groups who have been affected by the ongoing crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The main goal of providing technical assistance to the Task Force is to prepare the ratification instrument for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC). This is done by analysing national legal frameworks against the UNTOC and looking ahead at how the Government enforces the instrument once it's ratified; assessing ratification and enforcement of UNTOC by the Eastern and Horn of Africa countries; and producing the ratification instruments.

In relation to **objective 11**, IOM supports States in strengthening the operational capability of border management which encompasses national and international coordination and cooperation among all relevant authorities and agencies involved. This is done by providing assistance that focuses on capacity-building for concerted border management including through targeted technical assistance to strengthen the operational capability of border management agencies. One of the tools of the integrated border management framework is the establishment of one-stop border posts (OSBP) – a single shared physical infrastructure in which the customs and border services of the countries operate side by side. In **Rwanda** and **the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**, IOM is implementing an EU-funded project “Secure Cross-Border Social, Economic and Commercial Activities in the Great Lakes Region” which works towards strengthening economic integration and social cohesion of the cross-border communities. The project provides for the construction of OSBP and improvement of border facilities at Rusizi II – a border point between the two countries, which will ensure seamless movement of people, goods and strengthen communication among border agencies.

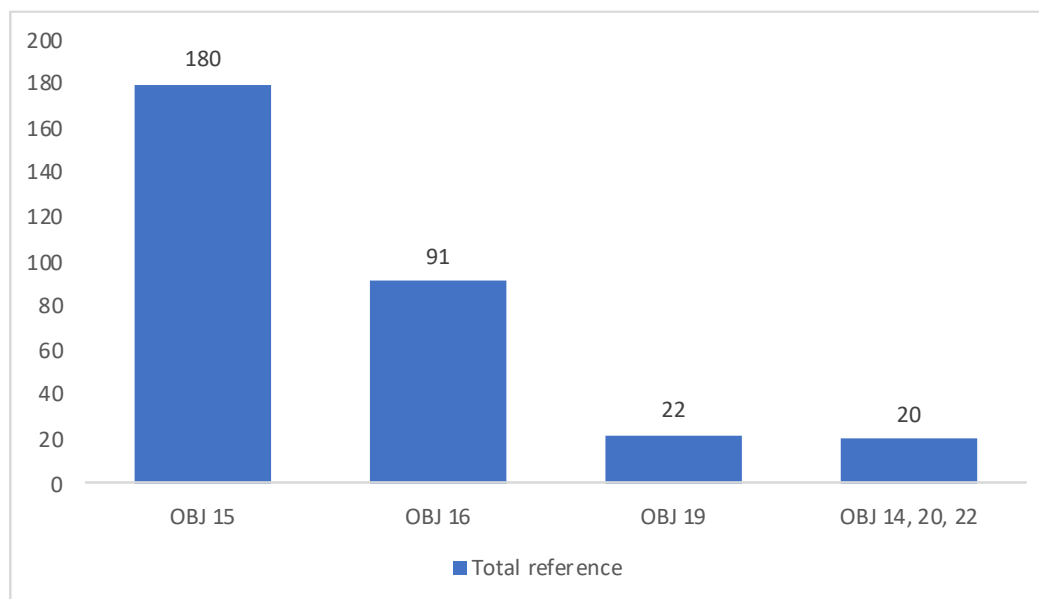
In line with **objective 13**, IOM assists States and relevant stakeholders in upholding the human rights principle by making detention the measure of last resort and moving towards alternatives to detention (ATD). However, objective 13 is among the objectives that has received significantly less

attention in the programmatic activities of IOM. From 2019 to 2021, IOM developed ATD Series – Roadmap on Alternatives to Migration Detention, which provide guidance for IOM staff and other stakeholders in conceiving, developing, implementing and advocating for ATD. These ATD series incorporate the GCM guiding principles of whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches²⁵ and provide a practical analysis of objective 13²⁶.

IOM’s **Policy on the Full Spectrum of Return, Readmission and Reintegration** guides IOM’s work on return migration through a holistic, rights-based and sustainable development-oriented approach that facilitates safe and dignified return, readmission and sustainable reintegration. To advance **objective 21**, in **Viet Nam**, IOM provided return and reintegration assistance under the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programme by supporting the return of Vietnamese citizens from Australia, Belarus, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.²⁷

2.3. CLUSTER III (OBJECTIVES 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 AND 22)

TABLE 3.1: GCM REFERENCING IN PROJECTS ACCORDING TO PRIMA GCM “WIZARD”



²⁵ IOM, Road Map on Alternatives to Migration Detention, Tools Series N°1 (Geneva, 2019), p. 7.

²⁶ *ibid.*

²⁷ Viet Nam, Vietnam’s Response to the Voluntary GCM Review. Available at https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/event-documents/Viet%20Nam_Voluntary%20GCM%20Survey%20Report.pdf.

In total, 313 projects globally were tagged against GCM objectives under Cluster III, representing 46 per cent of all projects tagged against GCM objectives on GCM Wizard between December 2019 and March 2022. The majority of projects under Cluster III were tagged against Objectives 15 and Objective 16.

IOM, in supporting States in advancing **Objective 14**, has focused on the extension of direct operational consular support, citizen services, and facilitated consular cooperation between States. More specifically, IOM's consular support and citizen services include flexible and tailor-made solutions such as information services, appointment scheduling, form-filling assistance, document logistics, biometrics enrolment, fee processing, document verification and medical assistance. In the **East and Horn of Africa**, IOM has been working with the Regional Ministerial Forum on Migration, to support governments in enhancing consular protection and cooperation to assist migrants in vulnerable situations outside the region.

Under **objective 15** of the GCM, IOM has supported States to respond to the needs of migrant populations by delivering a range of comprehensive programmes to promote equitable services in the area of basic health, accommodation, legal, psychosocial, and socio-economic support. In **Argentina**, IOM delivered support, in seven cities across the country, to stranded migrants (due to mobility restrictions and border closure) and migrants in transit. This support included temporary accommodation and food in City of Buenos Aires, Greater Buenos Aires, Puerto Iguazú, Jujuy, Mar del Plata, Mendoza and Córdoba. Additionally, migrant people were assisted with psychosocial support, mental health and legal aid. These activities were jointly carried out with civil society organisations.

In providing health-related assistance to governments, migrant groups, displaced populations and communities, IOM ensures that its actions facilitate the implementation of the objectives of the Global Compact; the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including the SDG3.8 on Universal Health Coverage (UHC), the World Health Assembly (WHA) Resolutions on the health of migrants (WHA 61.17, 2008) and on promoting the health of refugees and migrants (WHA 70.15, 2017). Since the adoption of the GCM, IOM has further continued to strengthen engagements with governments, the UN and other stakeholders and migrant communities to provide technical, coordination and operational support across the humanitarian-development nexus. In 2020, over 1200 IOM staff worked across 108 countries in 265 health-related projects, including in 40 emergency or crisis contexts, with 233 million US in expenditures.

Objective 15: Fostering Health and Protection of Migrants in Vulnerable Situations in Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia, Sudan and Yemen

The regional project “Fostering health and protection of migrants in vulnerable situations in Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Yemen, and Sudan”, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland since 2015, contributes to the improvement of migrants’ health and the advancement towards universal health coverage of migrants in the region through the enhancement and implementation of health policies that are migrant inclusive; enhancement of health and protection; and strengthening of partnerships in terms of migration health.

In 2021, the project contributed to the successful inclusion of regular and irregular migrants in the COVID-19 national vaccination campaigns in the six countries; the launch of the National Strategic Plan of Migration Health 2021-2025 in Morocco; the establishment of a migration health desk within Sudan's Federal Ministry of Health; the incorporation of migrants into the national AIDS program in Egypt; and the reinforcement of the South-South cooperation approach through the training of a regional pool of trainers on migration health by the National School of Public Health of Morocco. Finally, the project provided medical assistance to 17,854 migrants, psychosocial assistance to 9,007 migrants, humanitarian assistance to 4,956 migrants, and sensitized 7,570 migrants on migration health-related topics.

The regional health project contributes to the achievement of objective 15, as well as objectives 7, 16 and 23, while at the same time advancing health-related SDGs. As a cross-border multi-country regional programme, this work applies the key GCM principles and approaches, such as the whole of government/whole of society approach by engaging not only health sectors and governments but also non-health sectors (ministries of interior, defence, immigration authorities) and also non-government actors (civil society and academia).

Migrant integration and social cohesion are the key elements of effective migration management that in turn contribute to diverse, inclusive and cohesive societies. IOM's programming on migrant inclusion and social cohesion takes a **whole-of-community** approach and is carried out in line with the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and **objective 16** of the GCM. IOM's programming on this topic is carried out under seven key areas: orienting and training migrants pre-and post-arrival; preparing and empowering host communities; providing direct support and services; facilitating labour market inclusion and private sector engagement; raising awareness and countering xenophobia; promoting social mixing between migrants and communities; and conducting research and analysis for policy and programme development. An example of activities under **objective 8** is the "Pilot Project for Strengthening Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion through Stakeholders' Engagement, Socio-Economic Activities and Countering Anti-Migrant Narratives" implemented by IOM in **South Africa** in cooperation with OHCHR, UNDP, UNHCR, and UN Women. The objective of this joint programme is to address the challenges of migrant integration, social cohesion and xenophobic violence particularly among the populations in vulnerable situations through targeted engagement and participation of government counterparts, migrants and host communities in community-level peace and socio-economic activities.

IOM recognises and commits to supporting governments and stakeholders in creating conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development under **objective 19** of the GCM. In this light, in 2018, IOM launched the iDiaspora platform, a digital platform where global diasporas exchange key information and good practices to mainstream migration in development. The iDiaspora platform also serves as a resource hub that allows its members to access and share diaspora success stories, best practices and relevant policies from around the globe.

Under these commitments in April 2022, IOM supported the Government of **Ireland** in organizing the Global Diaspora Summit (GDS) with the purpose to assist States and partners in taking stock of the achievements of objective 19 of the Global Compact. The goal of the GDS was to deliver a collaborative vision and programme of progress for governments and other stakeholders through meaningful and structured dialogue with diaspora and transnational communities.

Objective 19: Supporting the development of the Lesotho National Diaspora Policy and establishing the Basotho Diaspora Association

As part of the “Enhancing Coordination and Strengthening Institutional Capacity to Effectively Engage Basotho Diaspora” project, IOM has been working with the Government of Lesotho towards an increased contribution of the Basotho diaspora in the socio-economic development of Lesotho.

In 2019, IOM committed to supporting the Government of Lesotho in developing a Lesotho National Diaspora Policy with a view to establishing a platform for the strategic framework for mobilizing and integrating Basotho diaspora in the national development as well as harnessing communication links within the Basotho diaspora. The Basotho diaspora, 90 per cent of which resides in the Republic of South Africa, is not a homogenous group; it is representative of many generations of migrants and has a different level of connectivity with Lesotho.

The preparation of the National Diaspora Policy was done by supporting the **whole-of-government approach**: in-depth interviews with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Relations, Prime Minister’s Office, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Health, etc. were conducted. Private sector and diaspora members were engaged in this assessment as well in line with the whole-of-society approach.

The National Diaspora Policy was adopted by the Cabinet in 2020 and officially launched by the Prime Minister in 2021. The Basotho Diaspora Association was launched on the same occasion. This was followed by the establishment of a Diaspora Directorate within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Relations

The field of migrants’ financial inclusion and enhancing access to remittances by reducing their transfer costs (**objective 20**) has received less attention in terms of programmatic activities. Notable activities include **Jamaica** where IOM is implementing a project “Supporting the Modernization of Jamaica’s Remittance Industry” where a large share of remittance recipients are unbanked and the high transfer costs may impact the sustainability of remittance flows. As part of this project, IOM supports the Government of Jamaica in modernizing the remittance industry by keeping it with the global advances.²⁸

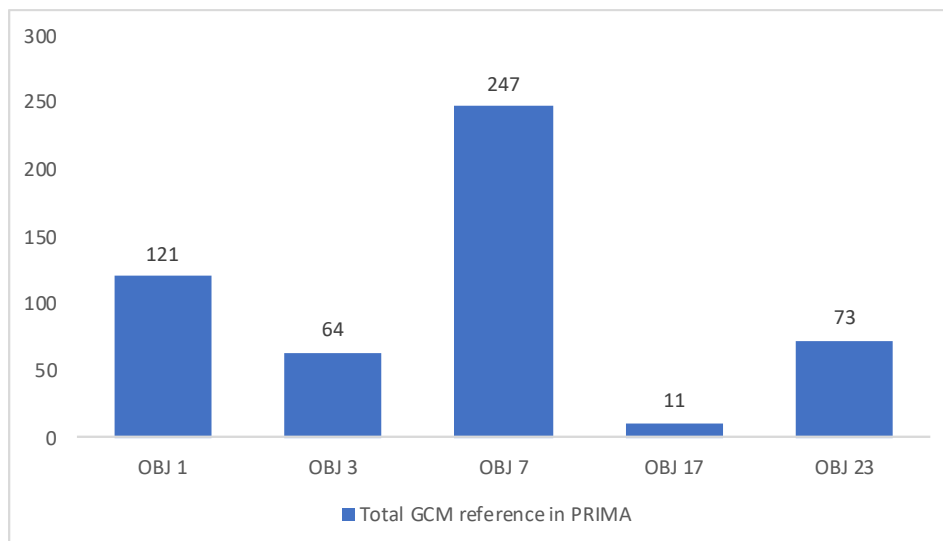
IOM is committed to supporting States in establishing mechanisms for the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits under **objective 22**. Nevertheless, over the years, objective 22 has received considerably less attention with only five projects reported to contribute to this objective. Among these examples is **Kenya**, where the Government collaborated with IOM

²⁸ Source: PRIMA.

and FAO to develop a guidance tool for mainstreaming migration into development planning in social protection, agriculture and rural development.²⁹

2.4. CLUSTER IV (OBJECTIVES 1, 3, 7, 17 AND 23)

TABLE 4.1: GCM REFERENCING IN PROJECTS ACCORDING TO PRIMA GCM “WIZARD”



A total of 516 projects globally were tagged against GCM objectives under Cluster IV, representing 77 per cent of all projects tagged³⁰ against GCM objectives on GCM Wizard. The majority of projects under Cluster III were tagged against Objectives 7 and Objective 1, with Objective 1 being the most frequently tagged objective.

The Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) were developed by IOM in cooperation with Economist Impact with the goal of operationalizing the Migration Governance Framework – a framework that allows participating states to define what “well-managed migration policy” might look like at the national level. The MGI tool is a set of 90 indicators used to assist voluntary countries in assessing their migration policies and advance the conversation on what well-governed migration is. While the MGI was developed before the adoption of the Global Compact, its indicators capture all 23 objectives thus allowing the governments to show their progress towards the achievement of the

²⁹ Republic of Kenya, Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government. Kenya Voluntary Country Review Report on Implementation of the Principles and Objectives of GCM, December 2020. Available at https://migrationnetwork.un.org/sites/g/files/tmzbd1416/files/resources_files/kenya_gcm_voluntary_review_report.pdf.

³⁰ Projects can be tagged to more than one objective.

Compact's objectives. MGI is helping States to advance the GCM implementation by revising national migration policies and elaborating national implementation plans.

IOM remains committed to strengthening its ability to draw data, knowledge and experience from the field. This data and knowledge are analysed and applied in developing evidence-based policies. In its Strategic Vision, IOM pronounces the need to consolidate the available data and ensure greater quality, consistency and comparability of data sets, therefore directly contributing to GCM **objective 1**. In 2020, IOM developed a Migration Data Strategy to focus and further amplify its existing engagement on data as part of broader organizational strategic planning that is also aligned with the data strategy of the Secretary-General. The Strategy is geared to support the implementation of the key international frameworks including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the GCM, the Global Compact on Refugees, the Agenda for Humanity and the Grand Bargain, as well as frameworks relevant to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee.

Concerning knowledge management, IOM undertakes applied research and analysis to produce its numerous publications and migration knowledge products that are relevant to the implementation of the Global Compact at national, regional and global levels. Since 2000, IOM has been producing the World Migration Report, IOM's flagship report that contributes to increased understanding of migration and mobility throughout the world. The latest edition of the Report – World Migration Report 2022, describes the key developments related to the implementation of the GCM by the UN system and IOM as a Coordinator and Secretariat of the UN Network on Migration. Moreover, IOM runs a Publications Platform that contains more than 2000 electronic publications in 30+ different languages. Key IOM publications such as the World Migration Report, the National Migration Profiles, the Migration Research Series and other studies, reports and information products can be accessed and downloaded from the IOM Publications Platform. Moreover, in 2019 and 2020 IOM led the preparation of Secretary-General's first Report on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.³¹

The Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) was set up in Berlin in 2015 by IOM with the aim to respond to calls for better international migration data and analysis.³² As part of its knowledge management activities, the GMDAC develops and manages online tools such as the [Migration Data Portal](#) which collects timely, comprehensive migration statistics and information; the [Migration Network Hub](#) – the first knowledge platform and connection hub that supports Member States in the implementation, follow-up and review of the GCM the creation of which was called on for by the GCM³³; GMDAC also launched the first-ever [Africa Migration Data Network](#) to promote a continental exchange of good practices on migration data issues and facilitate coordination and

³¹ UN General Assembly, Report of the Secretary-General on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (A/75/542 of 26 October 2020).

³² Since January 2022, IOM has launched the Global Data Institute, which brings together IOM's main data capacities, including GMDAC, and the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM).

³³ Supra note 1, para. 43.

collaboration between its members. Within the capacity building activities stream, GMDAC supports governments to improve migration data and the evidence base by developing guidelines and strategies, data collection manuals, training materials and migration profiles, as well as facilitating workshops and assisting in project design. In 2021 GMDAC published “Leaving no migrant behind”, a user-friendly guide containing step-by-step advice on how to disaggregate data and increase visibility of migrants in SDG and other development data. GMDAC works with governments and other partners in pilot countries in Africa to improve this type of data disaggregation through targeted capacity building activities, and to encourage peer-to-peer learning and knowledge exchange on this.

The Missing Migrants Project is a part of GMDAC’s portfolio on data collection and analysis. This Project collects information on fatalities of migrants, including refugees and asylum seekers, in the process of crossing state borders or in the process of migrating to an international destination. The project operates an open-access database and website containing records of migrant deaths and disappearances since 2014, as well as resources for families who search for the missing persons.

Further, GMDAC convened the [Big Data for Migration Alliance](#) (BD4M) to accelerate the responsible and ethical use of new data sources, including big data, and innovative methods to support migration analysis and policy, as called for in GCM Objective I. The Alliance supports Member States and other actors by a) providing guidance and capacity-building support on ethical and responsible data innovation, b) strengthening engagement with holders of non-traditional data, particularly in the private sector, and c) conducting and disseminating research and analysis on priority policy issues.

From 2019 to 2021, together with the ILO and UNODC, IOM developed joint research tools for measuring the trafficking of forced labour based on the collected international statistics on victims of trafficking in persons and forced labour. Moreover, IOM partnered with UNODC to roll out trainings to governments and civil society stakeholders on the new standards and guidelines for the collection, management and use of human trafficking administrative data. Thus, during the pilot phase, more than 120 government officials from 40 African countries received training on the new standards and guidance developed together with UNODC, while 30 representatives of 19 frontline agencies completed training on the new Human Trafficking Case Data Standards. Furthermore, IOM provides data to the Counter Trafficking Data Collaborative - the first global data hub on human trafficking that publishes harmonized data from counter-trafficking organizations around the world.

Objective 1: Mapping of the Armenian diaspora skills using big data³⁴

Through the project “Enhancing Development through Diaspora Engagement in Armenia”, funded by the IOM Development Fund, IOM aims to build the capacity of the Armenian Government to engage the Armenian diaspora and leverage their skills, talents, and energies to support the country’s sustainable development plans.

Through innovative methods using big data, including analyses of web traffic and onomastic of public databases, IOM and its partners have been able to better map concentrations of the Armenian diaspora worldwide, and understand their professional networks of. Through analysis of the Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID) database, for example, the project has identified 26,945 scientists and researchers of Armenian origin living outside of Armenia, with many engaged in fields of importance to Armenia’s development, such as health, the social and natural sciences.

The tangible benefits of this research can already be seen, as based on mapping results IOM was able to identify relevant diaspora professionals and coordinate videoconferences between officials within the Ministry of Health and Armenian diaspora medical professionals in New York and Paris who had been treating cases of COVID-19. These medical professionals were able to provide Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia with key insights and information to support Armenia’s own response to the pandemic and treatment of COVID-19 patients.

Objective 3: Provision of timely and accurate information on migration via “information windows” in Mexico³⁵

Information Hubs are centres that provide safe and accurate information about migration procedures, services for migrants, the risks of irregular migration, and regular migration options. These hubs are coordinated by national and local authorities and are supported by IOM as part of the Western Hemisphere Programme (WHP) implemented by IOM in the Bahamas, Belize, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico and Panama.

³⁴ Migration Network Hub Repository of Practices, Skills Mapping Through Big Data: A case study of Armenian diaspora in the United States of America and France, <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/practice/skills-mapping-through-big-data-case-study-armenian-diaspora-united-states-america-and>.

³⁵ Source: IOM Mexico Country Office submission.

There are currently 53 information Hubs located in 9 countries in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean. In Mexico, IOM has established 22 “Ventanillas informativas sobre migración” – information windows on migration. Yet, the number of informative windows is expected to grow throughout 2022. As of January 2022, the information windows on migration in Mexico have served 5,264 people during phase XII of the Program that began in October 2021. The main three topics that migrants receive information or counselling on are: general counselling, migratory processes, and employment advice.

Under the resilience pillar of the Strategic Vision, IOM commits to taking a long-term and holistic approach to address the long-term impacts and drivers of vulnerability by supporting Member States in achieving **objective 7**.

IOM continues its effort in supporting the States in eliminating discrimination, violence, stigma, misinformation, and xenophobia against migrants under **objective 17** of the Global Compact. Secretary-General in his Second Report on the GCM highlights the progress that has been made towards the inclusion of migrants and the effort to eliminate their discrimination. During 2020 and 2021, IOM supported “Frontier dialogue consultations on addressing structural, racial and ethnicity-based discrimination” led by WHO and UNESCO under the umbrella of the UNSDG Task Team on Leaving No One Behind, Human Rights and the Normative Agenda. The result of these consultations is a report that provides United Nations country and humanitarian teams with a package of interventions, for adaptation to specific country contexts, to support rebuilding from the COVID-19 tragedy in a way that results in more just, equal and resilient societies.³⁶

IOM engages with States, the UN System, other international and intergovernmental organizations, civil society and the media on migration governance to support the implementation of **objective 23**. Since 2001, IOM has organized International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) which brings together all migration stakeholders at a global level for free and open discussions on the opportunities and challenges of migration. The IDM sessions organized in February 2022, were dedicated to specific objectives of the GCM and their practical implementation to identify successes, challenges, best practices and address gaps.

IOM at the regional and HQ levels has also supported stakeholder engagement on GCM implementation, follow-up and review through organising various regional and HQ based stakeholder consultations and dialogues, in particular with civil society, ahead of the GCM regional reviews and the IMRF.

In 2021, as the regional reviews process continued, IOM regional offices supported several preparatory meetings and actions including four regional review meetings - in the regions of Arab,

³⁶ <https://bit.ly/3FNn3rz>

Asia and the Pacific, Latin American and the Caribbean and Africa. A number of capacity building events and consultations with Member States and stakeholders were also organized.

At the national level, IOM offices supported States with national consultations on the GCM and in submitting national voluntary reports on GCM implementation. About 50 IOM Offices across all regions provided support to governments in drafting reports for national voluntary review. Building on these reviews, IOM has supported States and stakeholders to prepare for the first IMRF to take place in May 2022.

For Objective 23, IOM cooperated with [inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration](#) (ISCM), and prepared various tools to support the reorientation of ISCMs towards the GCM. Thanks to these and tailored bilateral support to ISCMs, ISCMs have not only organized dedicated events on the GCM but also mainstreamed GCM in thematic discussions.

IOM encourages the non-UN intergovernmental organizations' (IGO) to contribute to the GCM by regularly sharing information on the GCM reviews to the IGOs. Most of the cooperation agreements that IOM have concluded with IGOs contain the GCM as an area for cooperation. IOM have also supported intergovernmental organizations in organizing a number of joint events on the GCM.

Several MIRAC regional initiatives are specifically directed to strengthen IOM's coordination work to support the GCM implementation. For example, in 2020 and 2021, IOM in **South America** with the support of the MIRAC contribution aligned IOM programming to GCM implementation and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru by implementing a range of measures directed at enhancing the capacities of the South America Regional Office, updating the existing tools to the South American context, and improving the knowledge of the country staff of GCM implementation, etc.

INFORMATION BOX: COVID-19 AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GCM

COVID-19 and Implementation of the GCM

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, IOM mobilized its resources in order to support the global response to the challenges posed by this global health and mobility crisis while being committed to supporting all partners in the implementation of the GCM. Acting in line with the GCM framework ensures that all social groups, including migrants, are protected equally against the COVID-19 impact while engaging all of the society and all the government in a coordinated response.

The Policy Brief of the Secretary-General [“COVID-19 and People on the Move”](#) offers four basic tenets to advancing safe and inclusive mobility during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. The four briefs, namely on capacity development; preventing loss of life and other tragedies during migration; promoting safe and regular migration; and promoting inclusive societies and including migrants in COVID-19 response and recovery, were produced to support discussions on the recommendation of the report of Secretary-General on GCM.

As part of working groups of the UNNM, IOM participated in developing products reflecting IOM’s expertise and opinion related to the COVID-19 response to guide Member States in their COVID-19 response. Some of these include a policy brief on [“COVID-19 & Immigration Detention: What Can Governments and Other Stakeholders Do?”](#) and [an annex to the policy brief](#), guidance note [“Regular Pathways for Admission and Stay for Migrants in Situations of Vulnerability”](#), etc.

Under the commitment to **objective 15**, IOM has provided support to Member States in including migrants in vaccination plans and health care coverage. In Jordan, IOM organized consultative meetings with the Ministries of Health, Interior, Labour and the National Centre for Security and Crisis Management to include migrants in an irregular situation to be included in the vaccination plans. IOM worked closely as a member of the related working group on access to services, and issued relevant guidance including [Enhancing Access to Services for Migrants in the Context of COVID-19 Preparedness, Prevention, Response and Beyond](#) and an [Inventory of tools, guidance, policies, statement and best practices including for COVID-19](#) response that can serve as a guide for governments and other stakeholders to achieve objective 15.

Under **objective 21**, IOM largely supported Member States in facilitating return of stranded migrants to their countries or provinces of origin. In Central Asia, IOM and its partners and in cooperation with the Governments of **Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan** supported more than 3000 people - mainly Tajik nationals, to return to their countries of origin. In **Cuba**, IOM provided financial support to the Government to assist in voluntary return of the Cuban nationals in line with the Tripartite Memorandum between Haiti, Cuba and IOM. IOM offices worldwide facilitated dialogue between host and origin countries for the establishment of and/or adherence to public health requirements and protocols for the safe and dignified return as well as sustainable reintegration of migrants. IOM successfully negotiated with the Government of the **Niger** and the governments of origin countries of migrants the opening of humanitarian corridors to allow for the voluntary return of close to 2,500 migrants to Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Guinea, Mali and Nigeria.

With a view to **objective 23**, IOM put in place structures at the regional level to support Member States and IOM Country Offices in providing a coordinated response to the COVID-19 pandemic challenges. For example, the IOM Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa established a Task Force on COVID-19 and Migration/Mobility under the Issue-Based Coalition on Migration for the purpose to promote coordination, support field operations, promote data and information

sharing, provide policy advice and explore programme synergies at the regional level. Furthermore, the Middle East and North Africa Regional Office conducted a mapping exercise and developed a joint policy brief on migrant inclusion in the COVID-19 vaccine rollout under the umbrella of the Task Force. As part of the UN Regional Network for West and Central Africa, IOM organized joint advocacy campaigns to open corridors for stranded migrants and provide migrants with access to vaccines. Through the Regional Network on Migration for Asia and the Pacific, IOM cooperated with the governments of Thailand, the Philippines and Indonesia to organize Champion series consultations on the ramifications of COVID-19 on migration and mobility.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Since the endorsement of the Global Compact for Migration in December 2018, IOM has worked to implement its mandate as Coordinator and Secretariat of the UN Network on Migration to support States that have adopted GCM, the UN system and stakeholders in implementing the GCM at local, regional and international levels. At the same time, IOM has been supporting States by implementing projects and initiatives that contribute to the 23 GCM objectives and guiding principles, including developing policy guidance and tools, building capacity and providing services to migrants and communities.

The implementation of the GCM, a relatively new framework will require enhanced engagement by all actors across all levels of migration governance. This report aims to inform discussion on how IOM working with its partners can develop more strategic and targeted approach to support the advancement of GCM objectives in the next phase of GCM implementation.

ANNEXES

ANNEX I. GCM OBJECTIVES FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION

1. Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies
2. Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin
3. Provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration
4. Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation
5. Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration
6. Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work
7. Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration
8. Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants
9. Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants
10. Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration
11. Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner
12. Strengthen certainty and predictability in migration procedures for appropriate screening, assessment and referral
13. Use migration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives
14. Enhance consular protection, assistance and cooperation throughout the migration cycle
15. Provide access to basic services for migrants
16. Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion
17. Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration
18. Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences
19. Create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries

20. Promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants
21. Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration
22. Establish mechanisms for the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits
23. Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration

ANNEX 2. MAPPING OF KEY SOURCES OF THE ASSESSMENT

IOM GCM Stocktaking: Mapping of Sources



ANNEX 3. OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE MIGRATION MPTF³⁷

