Regional Seminar:
Strengthening the capacity of local governments
on migration and human mobility issues

September 12 and 13, 2022

San Salvador, El Salvador

Concept Note – Content- Methodology

BACKGROUNDS

International migration has become a determining factor in the twenty-first century. In quantitative terms, the number of international migrants has been constant over the past two decades, reaching 281 million people living outside their country of origin by 2020. [1] Even more indicative of the scale of human mobility globally, 1 in 7 people is on the move (considering the estimates of internal migrants).[2]

Other factors that demonstrate the importance of migration for the various socio-political levels are the different reasons that drive migration, the impact of migration on economies and societies of countries of origin, transit and destination, on migrants and their families, and on national policies and international relations.

With the intensification of migratory flows in the region, and the change of our societies in technological, economic, social, and political terms, along with climate change, natural disasters, and environmental degradation, it has become even more important to know how to manage this phenomenon, considering the human and labor rights of migrants, and the needs and priorities of countries of origin, transit and destination.

JUSTIFICATION

While migration governance has traditionally been approached from the national level due to its normative and institutional nature, the importance of its approach at the local level has been emphasized. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development highlights in its objectives not only the improvement of migration

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[1] UNDESA (2020) International Migration 2020 Highlights. Available in https://www.un.org/en/desa/international-migration-2020-highlights

[2] The latest estimates as for internal migrants, they indicate that in 2009 there were 740 million (UNDP, 2009). Available in: http://www.hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/269/hdr_2009_en_complete.pdf

governance through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies (SDG 10), but also the work towards inclusive cities, through affordable housing, which can benefit migrants. (SDG 11).[3]

Likewise, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (PMM) recognizes the role of local authorities and communities in meeting its objectives. For example, Objective 23 states that it should: "Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration"; calls for "Engaging and supporting local authorities in identifying needs and opportunities for international cooperation to effectively implement the Global Compact and incorporating their perspectives and priorities into development strategies and programs and migration planning, as a means of ensuring good governance as well as policy coherence between different levels of government and policy sectors, and maximize the effectiveness and impact of international development cooperation." [4] In addition to being reflected in the pan-social approach, the importance of the role of local authorities and communities is highlighted in Objectives 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 21.

The Progress Declaration of the International Migration Review Forum adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in May 2022 recognizes that progress has been made in integrating international migration into development plans and sectoral policies at the local level. The Declaration highlights efforts to provide equal and safe access to affordable essential services, including health care and vaccines, to all migrants, regardless of their migration status, in the effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly at the local level. In addition, it reaffirmed the crucial role of the local level, for example, by promoting the contributions of migrants at all levels of competence related to sustainable development at the local, national, regional, and global levels within the framework of the 2030 Agenda[5].

The Global Organization of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the largest organization of local and regional governments in the world, states in the preamble of its statute that "local governments (...) they must play a fundamental role in guaranteeing the effective exercise of the human rights of all its inhabitants." [6] In this sense, the involvement of local governments in migration governance is essential to ensure respect for the rights of migrants and their integration into host communities.

IOM collaborates with UCLG in different instances, including the Mayors Mechanism of the Global Forum on Migration and Development and the Global Cities Fund. In the region, IOM cooperates with the Latin American Federation of Cities, Municipalities, and Associations of Local Governments (FLACMA), UCLG's regional section for Latin America.

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[3] For more information on the links between migration and the 2030 Agenda, access "Migration in the 2030 Agenda: A Guide for Professionals". Available in: https://publications.iom.int/es/books/la-migracion-en-la-agenda-2030-guia-para-profesionales

[4] United Nations, Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Available in: https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N18/452/03/PDF/N1845203.pdf?OpenElement
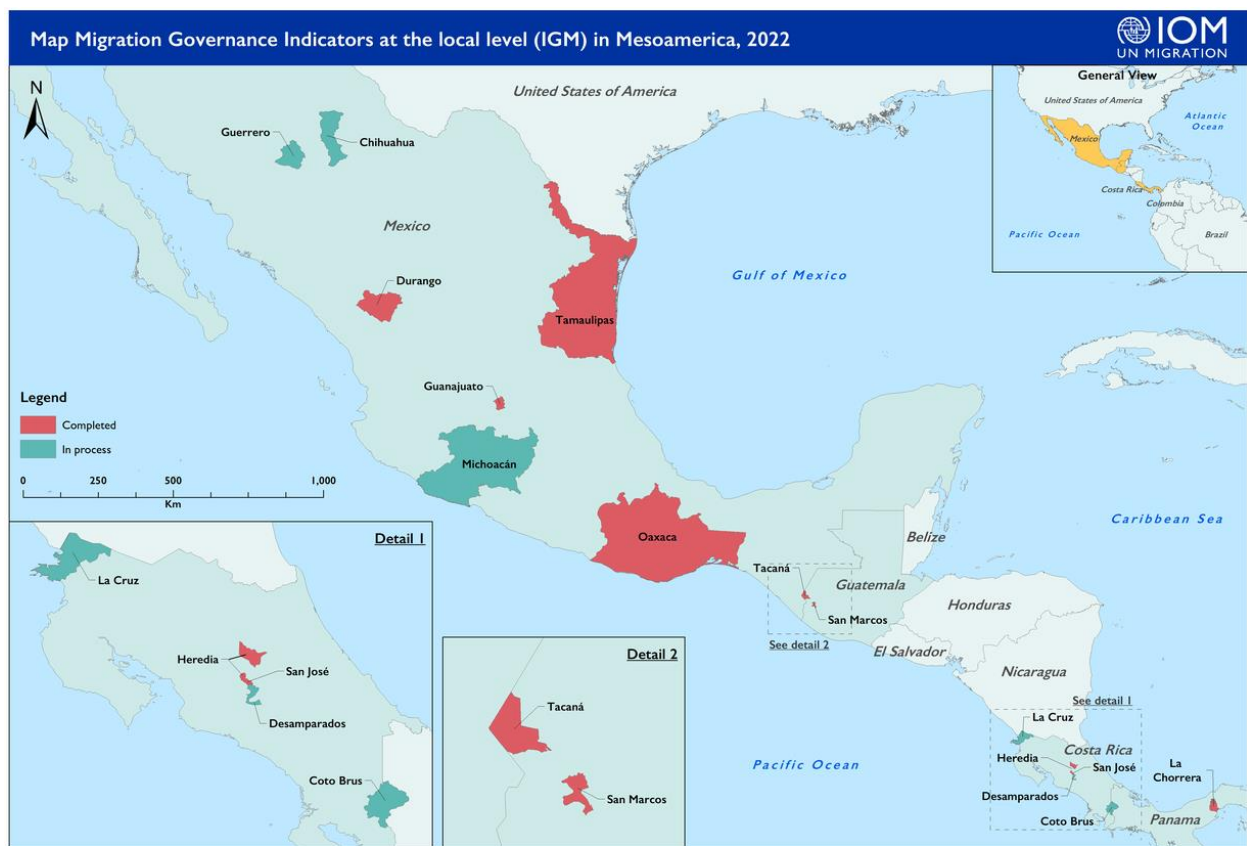
[5] A/RES/76/266 Statement on progress of the International Migration Review Forum. Available in: https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N22/376/70/pdf/N2237670.pdf?OpenElement

[6] UCLG (2008) Global Agenda on Human Rights in the City, Preamble. Available in: https://www.uclg-cisdp.org/sites/default/files/Carta_Agenda_Mundial_DDHH_Ciudad_CGLU_0.pdf

IOM has provided technical cooperation to at least 15 local governments in countries of Mexico and Central America to develop reports on migration governance indicators (IGM) based on the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF) that IOM Member States adopted in 2015. The MGI works as a tool based on the analysis of the structures of migration governance that presents a series of guidelines on the instruments that the State could use to develop its migration governance. It evaluates only the institutional, legal and public policy framework on migration, without evaluating its implementation in practice. The MGI can be used as a frame of reference to identify measures that countries could adopt to strengthen their migration governance structures.

The following map illustrates the municipalities where local governments have conducted or are in the process of finalizing their reports on migration governance indicators (MGI):

Considering the relevance of this integrated approach in the region, in 2021 the first *Training Program in Migration Policies and Governance was carried out with a focus on the local and municipal level,* under the Pro-Tempore Presidency of the Regional Conference on Migration (CRM) led by Mexico. The Program focused on strengthening the capacities of actors at the local level in the field of migration policies and other related policies, through a virtual course on migration trends, a high-level panel with international experts, and three virtual

sessions. As a result of this Programme, one of the main recommendations was to support the capacity-building of local governments in migration policy and governance.

Preceding this recommendation, the "*Seminar for the enhancement of capacities for local governments in human mobility issues*" seeks to adopt an integrated approach to migration governance, in which local government officials improve their technical capacities in the design, implementation, and monitoring of public policies related to human mobility.

In line with the Pro-Tempore Presidency 2022 (PPT) Work Plan, this diploma reflects the cross-cutting axes of capacity building and regional cooperation by promoting a better understanding of human mobility, its trends, and existing frameworks for its management, and the benefits through an integrated approach. Due to the nature of migration, its governance must be addressed from various levels of government, through a regional and global perspective.

In addition, it should be noted that for the PPT of El Salvador this regional effort is simultaneously a step to consolidate its efforts on the matter as a country. The Government of El Salvador, with the technical assistance of different UN agencies, has developed a Specialized Course for the Governance of Orderly, Safe and Regular Migration from the Municipalities in 15 municipal mayors' offices, 5 in the eastern zone, and 10 in the western zone. One of the main results of this training process is that within the framework of the training, strategies have been developed for attention to the migrant population at the local level.

Below are the objectives and curriculum design of the Regional Seminar.

OBJECTIVES

- **General objective:** To strengthen the knowledge and technical capacity of local government officials in the RCM Members Countries in the design, implementation, and evaluation of public policies related to human mobility.

- **Specific objectives:**
    1. Understand the role of local authorities and authorities within the relevant global frameworks.
    2. Identify the priorities and needs of local governments in terms of migration governance.
    3. Promote the use of conceptual and technical tools that allow the improvement of the understanding of the migratory phenomenon and its governance in local governments.

Structure and topics to be developed in the Regional Seminar

Themes	Content	Methodology
Session 0. Migration Trends and Human Rights in International Migration	In the E Campus platform, a section will be enabled with the contents and resources of the **Regional Seminar Strengthening capacities for local governments on human mobility issues.** Seminar participants must register on the E Campus platform to access the following online courses: • Migration trends in Latin America • Human Rights in International Migration • Migration basic concepts	Asynchronous virtual mode. In advance, participants will be guided to study the contents of the E Campus courses. Coordinated: Valeria Ramírez and Fiorella Vargas, IOM
Session 1. Framework for migration governance	A. What is migration governance? B. Global frameworks (MiGOF, GCM, SDGs) and their links to local authorities and communities	This session will be face-to-face and each topic will be facilitated by an IOM expert or external. Coordinated: Rudi Maxwald, Senior Regional Liaison and Policy Officer
Session 2 Migration policymaking at the local level	A. The cycles of public policy formulation B. Evidence-based policymaking: migration governance indicators at the local level (MGI) C. Integration and social cohesion: Case studies D. Identification of priority areas of migration governance at the local level	This session will be face-to-face. The development of the contents will combine theoretical and practical knowledge. The facilitator must include interactive and group work in the session. Whether they are discussion tables, case studies, etc. Coordinated: Heydi González, Mexico and Central America Programme Officer, IOM

During the introductory session, in coordination with the Executive Secretariat of the RCM, participants will be asked to make a brief online consultation to assess their level of knowledge on the subject and their expectations of this activity. In the closing session, the online consultation will be sent back to the participants in order to assess the change in their level of knowledge on the subject, the level of satisfaction with their expectations, and the possible use of the knowledge acquired in their daily work. This test can be found within the E Campus platform.

As for the courses that will be studied prior to the face-to-face sessions, it should be noted that each course includes a knowledge test that allows obtaining the corresponding certificates. The seminar will be carried out through a hybrid methodology, face-to-face in San Salvador and virtually for the connection of certain panelists and participants.

PARTICIPANT PROFILE

It is proposed to address the Regional Seminar to 2 representatives of 2 municipalities for each country. It is suggested to invite representatives of local governments making a balance between those who already have accumulated experience in the subject and those who are starting to work on the subject and require to strengthen their knowledge:

- 2 mayors or political authorities at the state or municipal level of 2 municipalities.

Persons designated by RCM Member Countries are expected to participate in all sessions described in the methodology section above. Participants who successfully attend all activities (online course and sessions), will receive a certificate of approval for the course/use of the Seminar.

Observer agencies of the RCM and the Regional Network of Civil Organizations for Migration (RROCM), who wish to participate, will be welcome, as well as the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the member countries, which serve as focal points of the RCM.

12 of September 2022

Session 1. Migration governance framework		
Hour	Activity	Facilitates
09:00 – 09:15	Opening of the Seminar • Cindy Mariella Portal, Deputy Minister of Diaspora and Human Mobility, Pro-Tempore Presidency of the RCM • Michele Klein Solomon, IOM Regional Director for Central America, North America and the Caribbean	RCM Executive Secretariat
09:15 – 10:00	• Review of the main topics addressed in the virtual modality (Session 0)	Heydi González, IOM
10:00 – 10:15	Break	
10:15 – 10:45	• What is migration governance?	Rudi Maxwald, IOM
10:45 – 12: 00	• Global frameworks and their links with communities and local authorities	Rudi Maxwald, IOM
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 – 14: 00	• Migration governance from a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach	Cecilia Ramírez and Guadalupe Cedillos, IOM El Salvador
14:30 – 14:45	Recess	
14:45 - 15:45	• Migration and its links to local development: Highlights, challenges, and opportunities for the future	ECLAC (virtual)
15:45 – 16:30	Closure of Session 1	PPT RCM

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Session 2: Formulation of migration policies at the local level		
Hour	Activity	Facilitates
9:00 – 9:15	• Presentation of the agenda of session 2	RCM Executive Secretariat

9: 15- 10:15	• Evidence-based policymaking: migration governance indicators at the local level (MGI)	Johanna Gelves Reyes, IOM
10:15-10:30	Recess	
10: 30- 12: 00	• The role of local governments in the integration and social cohesion of migrants	FLACMA and UN-Habitat (to be confirmed)
12:00- 1:15	Lunch	
13:15 – 15: 45	• Working Groups: Identification of actions and priority areas for local governance: - Round Table 1: "Factors and pathways of regular migration" - Round table 2: "Migration governance, saving lives and sustainable reintegration" - Round Table 3 "Inclusion of migrants" - Round Table 4 "Data, information and evidence-based public policies"	Heydi González, IOM
15:45 -16:30	Seminar Evaluation	IOM
16: 30- 17:00	Conclusions and Closing of the Seminar	PPT RCM