Global Civil Society Survey – Key results
Mobilizing for the 19th September high-level summit (HLS) on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants and the June/July government negotiations of its outcomes

The document reports the key results of the Global Civil Society Survey, circulated to the MADE network on 31 May 2016. The purpose of the survey was to collect common actions and key messages that Civil Society wants to see in the official outcome document that will be negotiated by Member States in July and adopted, by consensus, at the 19 September high-level summit.

1. **CSOs that responded to the survey**

40 CSOs responded to the survey. The majority of them are human rights or development organizations. 28% are migrant/diaspora organizations or led by a migrant or diaspora member. 54% are international organizations, 43% of them work principally at a national or local level, and 3% at a regional level.

2. **CSO respondents actively involved in the HLS process**

21 (75%) of those responding to this question have designated staff working on the HLS.
3. **CSO respondents supporting the following thematic focuses for the summit outcome**

- Action Plan to uphold “the dignity and safety in large movements of both refugees and migrants” (UN Secretary General Report - Pillar 1) - 76%
- Global Compact for Responsibility-Sharing for Refugees (UN Secretary General Report - Pillar 2) - 76%
- Global Compact on Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration (UN Secretary General Report - Pillar 3) - 65%
- Action plan for social inclusion and against xenophobia and discrimination (Also in UN Secretary General) - 76%

Some further focus areas that were suggested are:

- addressing conflict as a major root cause of displacement;
- women and children in migration, and gender-perspectives;
- environmental migrants and refugees;
- addressing large movements of migrants and refugees in developing countries;
- Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)
4. Some recommendations and actions suggested

a. Action Plan to uphold “the dignity and safety in large movements of both refugees and migrants”
   - End the criminalization, arbitrary detention and deportation of migrants and refugees.
   - Reaffirm international humanitarian law obligations.
   - Collect in one place all existing rights (especially widely ratified rights) that pertain to protection of the dignity and safety of refugees and migrants.
   - Collect in one place all of the specific (and credible) procedures and frameworks that exist pertaining to migrants and refugees’ protection, (e.g., refugee status determination/asylum procedures, BIDS, trafficked/tortured person identification).
   - UN agencies should develop a framework for collective responses in protracted displacement settings, to better guide humanitarian/development collaboration.
   - Accountability mechanism(s) to hold governments and the UN to their commitments.
   - Emphasize regional solutions, including economic and political development.
   - Impose fines/sanctions against members who seal borders.
   - Invest in technological solutions to provide migrants and refugees with formal and informal education, information services, etc...
   - Facilitate access to credit for migrants and refugees in host countries.
   - Develop the “Economic Bridges Initiative” that would unlock trade preference agreements, unrestricted grants and FDI for countries scoring well on “A refugee integration index” (similar to the Millennium Challenge Corporation Model).
   - The UN General Assembly should endorse the "Commitment to Action" that UN agencies put forward at the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS).

b. Global Compact for Responsibility-Sharing for Refugees
   - Uphold existing legal frameworks, including full implementation of the principles and standards of the 1951 Refugee Convention and its Protocol, and ensure the right to seek and enjoy asylum and the principle of non-refoulement.
   - Maintain 10% resettlement target as a minimum, and define binding quota per Member State.
   - UNHCR should publish an annual report, indicating which Member States met their “fair share” of the global resettlement target -based on gross national income (GNI)-, as a means of encouraging states to increase their contribution.
   - Include channels of admission other than resettlement (humanitarian admissions, humanitarian visas, scholarships, family reunification, etc...), possibly even with a formula 2/3 resettlement-1/3 other admissions.
   - Grant refugees the right to work and access to public education and health services.
   - Support long-term solutions for refugees from the outset of displacement, by ensuring that both humanitarian and long-term development instruments and response mechanisms are drawn on.
   - Promote a child-centered approach in migration policy and ensure that the best interest of the child is of primary consideration.
   - Increase the use of cash, particularly digital cash, to increase protection and meet basic needs of refugees.
   - Formalize civil society, migrants and refugees’ central role in the process that the outcome document launches to develop this Compact.
c. Global Compact on Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration

- Ratify and implement UN and ILO conventions in both sending and receiving countries, and other international laws; for example the 1990 UN Migrant Workers convention, ILO conventions no 97, 143, 183 for the protection of migrant rights, facilitating safe, fair, regular and orderly migration.
- Ensure full access, regardless of immigration status, to public health, education, and other critical public services, as well as civil and human rights protection.
- Enhance legal migration channels, including migration mobility schemes for specific categories, such as university students.
- Increase by 10% on an annual basis the number of worker visas for all skill levels and facilitate labor migration schemes beyond bilateral agreements.
- Reduce the cost of migration, facilitate the flow of remittances and increase their productive use.
- Enhance transfer of skills and knowledge, and recognize migrants and refugees skills acquired elsewhere.
- Consulates/embassies should play a proactive role in protecting migrants’ rights, ensuring safe migration, and providing shelter and reintegration assistance to those who are returned.
- Provide a clear definition of environmental migrant and refugee.

D. Action plan for social inclusion and against xenophobia and discrimination

- Introduce specific national laws to challenge xenophobia and hold perpetrators accountable.
- Implement multicultural trainings and education initiatives at the school and college level.
- Undertake media education campaigns to tackle xenophobia and discrimination and create a climate of tolerance and understanding in the public sphere.
- Make mandatory for each country/city/town to develop adequate language trainings for migrants, to foster their integration.
- Bring together existing campaign leaders as a community of practice.
- Hold public forums to discuss fears and concerns about migrants and refugees, and organize programs for meeting migrants and refugees on a personal level.
- Elaborate a "pledge" with a few specific commitments that everyone can sign onto (e.g., the UN inclusion/welcome project), with things everyone can do: (e.g., a dinner, an event, a letter to a big newspaper, magazine or blog, facebook posts or tweets, an interview or web story, a webinar).
- Use social media to engage action for inclusion
- Identify and replicate good practices/models of states and local government entities for social inclusion and against xenophobia (e.g., New York City, Canada).

5. Some examples of good practices and partnerships with governments provided

- Norwegian government’s strong commitment to bilateral engagement with the Somali government in facilitating the voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees.
- 1989 Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indochinese refugees.
- Pilot project implemented in Tbilisi (Georgia) -in cooperation with Human Rights Council aimed at providing war-affected students from Syria and Iraq with language training, trauma counseling, academic credential testing and assistance in the access to foreign universities.
- Access to public health and public education regardless of migration status (Argentine Migration Law 25875 articles 7 and 8).
- Permanent regularization program for regional migrants (Patria Grande Program - Argentina).
- Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat (RMMS): an example of the importance of data, analysis and research for understanding the complexity of the drivers and flows of mixed movements.
- Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat (ReDDS): an example of the strength of working together to agree on the analysis for solutions frameworks (there are currently solutions frameworks for Somalia, Kenya and Uganda).
6. **Roles, responsibilities and institutions of the UN in addressing large scale movements**

75% of CSO respondents suggest changes in the roles, responsibilities and institutions of the UN to address challenges and opportunities related to migrants and refugees. Respondents’ ideas include:

- Create a separate UN migration agency with a protection mandate;
- Formalize a protection mandate of IOM;
- Improve the collaboration between IOM, UNHCR, UNDP and ILO;
- Improve the collaboration between humanitarian and development actors;
- Strengthen the connection between Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), IOM and the UN - including with respect to achievement and monitoring the migration-related SDGS;
- Rationalize and explicitly formalize the role of Civil Society in UN processes regarding human mobility;
- Establish a Permanent Special Representative of the UNSG for forced displacement to help coordinate the work of UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM and NGOs at the global level.

7. **Campaigns and events related to the 19 September HLS**

19 CSO respondents (around 60%) are planning campaigns, events and initiatives for the HLS.

Most of them are related to the Action Plan to uphold “the dignity and safety in large movements of both refugees and migrants”.

8. **Preparatory meeting on 17 July in NYC**

17 CSO respondents (60%) are willing to attend a Civil-Society-only strategy meeting the day before the hearings.

9. **Engagement with governments on the HLS**

The majority of CSO respondents (68%) is planning to engage with governments or a specific government on the HLS.

Most of them are interested in carrying CS common messages.
10. Some policy papers and resources suggested


- IOM, *MICIC Initiative*: [https://micicinitiative.iom.int/](https://micicinitiative.iom.int/)


