

## Implementation of the new Sustainable Development Goals related to migrants and migration, and the translation into national policies

### Suggested Civil Society Talking Points for 10-30 minute advocacy conversation with governments and parliamentarians

#### Background

Last September, all UN member states adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the SDG Summit in New York. Unlike the preceding Millennium Development Goals, this transformative agenda that outlines the goals for sustainable development for the coming 15 years and beyond, truly has the poorest, most disadvantaged and the most vulnerable at its heart. The Agenda consists of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 specific targets, of which 7 are specifically related to migrants and migration. It now comes down to governments taking these important goals and targets forward, translating them into national policies and ensuring their full implementing.

1. For a long time now, governments, agencies, academics and civil society have been agreeing on the fact that there is a **big two-way connection between migration and development (the so called migration-development nexus)**. That is:

<b>Migrants and migration are important for human and (not only) economic development</b> in countries of origin, heritage and residence	<b>Human and economic development is important for migrants and their families</b> (including to avoid forced (re-)migration)
Just a few examples: migrants and diaspora contribute to human and economic development as: <b>workers</b> (high, middle and lower skilled), <b>business creators</b> , policy advocates, and with <i>trillions</i> of US dollars a year of <b>earnings</b> that migrants and diaspora either <b>send</b> to countries of origin or heritage (as remittances) <b>or spend and save</b> in countries where they reside	A few examples: decent work, education, health, etc. in countries of origin and residence

2. This **migration-development nexus** has been taken into account in the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which the positive contribution of migrants and migration to sustainable development are recognized. Where exactly is migration in the 2030 Agenda?

- Migration is inherently part of all of the goals and targets that are ‘migration or displacement relevant’ – after all, the aim of the Agenda is to leave no one behind so no goal should be met unless it is met for everyone. Building on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development principle to “leave no-one behind”, migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons are among the vulnerable people that are prominently acknowledged and are thus inherently part of all the 17 goals and 169 targets.
- The 2030 Agenda embraces migration and migrants explicitly in the accompanying Declaration, stating “We will cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants regardless of migration status, of refugees and of displaced persons.”
- Most importantly, the 2030 Agenda explicitly refers to migration and migrants in 7 targets, which form a starting point of your advocacy conversation and can thus be found in the talking point section below.

**Three Talking Points** for 10-30 minute advocacy conversations with governments & parliamentarians

**1. Migration and migrants are explicitly referred to in 7 of the 169 adopted targets.**

Goal	Target
<b>5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.</b>	<b>Target 5.2 refers to the elimination of all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation</b>
<b>8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.</b>	<b>Target 8.7 refers to taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.</b>
	<b>Target 8.8 refers to the protection of labour rights and promotion of safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.</b>
<b>10. Reduce inequality within and among countries.</b>	<b>Target 10.7 refers to the facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well- managed migration policies.</b>
	<b>Target 10.c refers to the reduction of the transaction costs of migrant remittances to less than 3 per cent by 2030, and the elimination of remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent.</b>
<b>16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.</b>	<b>Target 16.2 refers to ending abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.</b>
<b>17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.</b>	<b>Target 17.18 refers to enhancing capacity-building support to developing countries by 2020, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts</b>

**2. These 7 targets should be implemented by governments and be translated into national policies, and their adequate resourcing needs to be ensured.** Taking this agenda forward, governments should take into account and build partnerships with multiple stakeholders, including migrants, diaspora, and other civil society actors. We ask governments to reaffirm that the SDGs apply “for all” and that no-one will be left behind; and that they will respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of migrants.

**3. Governments should pay special attention to policy coherence for development (PCD).** For more than a decade, several countries have attempted to link development with migration policies. In 2009, for instance, it became one of the five EU PCD priorities to create more coherence between migration and development policies. However, migration and development policies can also be deficit, and can even contradict each other.



This project is funded by the European Union. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of the Implementing Organizations and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.