



Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture



9^{ème} Forum des ONG en partenariat officiel avec l'UNESCO

Un nouveau regard sur les migrations humaines

Date et lieu : 26-27 septembre 2018, Tunis



SUMMARY OF THE NINTH INTERNATIONAL FORUM OF NGOs IN OFFICIAL PARTNERSHIP WITH UNESCO

Held in Tunis (Tunisia), 26-27 September 2018

Theme: **"ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE ON MIGRATION"**

I. Introduction

1. The Ninth International Forum of NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO held in Tunis from 26-27 September 2018 under the theme '*Another perspective on migration*'. The forum was organized by the NGOs-UNESCO Liaison Committee in partnership with UNESCO and the Arab Institute of Human Rights within the framework of the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
2. The 2-day forum was organized around 3 panel/plenary discussions, and 4 concurrent workshops with the main focus of identifying concrete examples of good practices and grassroots prospects in the areas of protection, reception and inclusion of migrants and refugees in conditions that are respectful of their dignity; and to analyse and propose global guidelines on the management of social transformations in the societies of the countries of origin, as well as the countries of transit and destination from a perspective of respect for fundamental human rights.
3. While this work does not seek to provide a comprehensive synthesis of the rich and diverse contributions made by both guests and participants at the forum, it attempts to provide a clear summary of the key issues and proposals deliberated in the 2 days. A more encompassing information with the presentations by panelists will be provided by The NGOs Liaison committee in its final report and on its online platform.

II. Another perspective on Migration

4. The overall theme of the forum "another perspective on migration" provided participants the opportunity to share practices, experiences and build synergies, reflect on preventing the structural causes of migration, contribute to the theoretical debates in order to change views on global migration, examine the role of UNESCO and NGOs in the protection, reception and inclusion of migrants order to create a common vision to better address the phenomenon of global migration, and to develop pilot projects and a guide of good practices
5. Global Migration has become part of societies' daily life and portray emerging faces of a world in constant motion. Unfortunately, the deteriorating conditions surrounding the flow of migrants around the world today, and the alarming increase in their mortality rate, call for new perspective and actions to strengthen global solidarity and protect their fundamental rights, which is a moral duty and a development imperative.

Key issues from the theme

6. Human rights approach should be placed at the heart of discussions and actions on Migration. Migration should be a choice not a necessity!

7. Safe, regular and orderly migration requires multisectoral actions and strategic partnerships
8. Education and ICT is central to promoting new perspective on migration beyond the narratives of fears and stereotypes.

III. Migrants as Actors of Development

9. Migration is one of the crucial elements of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Participants at the forum reiterated that more than 10 of the 17 Goals of the SDG have direct implications for migrants and refugees. The forum's discussion underlined the **huge contributions migrants make to Gross National Income of both host and home countries** through payment of taxes, remittances, and cash transfers.
10. The diversity and enrichment of human life for development of societies has been possible through interaction of various cultures and social capacities. The forum discussed **the need to encourage host communities and countries to increase recognition and integration of the social and professional capacities of migrants** for sustainable development through the arts, basic trainings on leadership, and through short films to enable migrants share their experiences.
11. **Ratification and implementation of Global compacts on Migration and Migrants Rights.** The participants discussed the relevance of NGOs to resonate the contributions of migrants to human development at the United Nations, and to see that member States are encouraged to ratify these important convention frameworks on Migration. Particular positive interface should be created with the permanent members of the UN Security Council who hold veto powers at the UN.
12. Feminization of Migration. The forum found very critical and worthy of attention the positive contributive role women migrants have been playing in development in host country either in domestic works and professional fields.

IV. Education and Resilience

13. **Global Citizenship Education (GCE) is a positive factor to build capacity of migrants** to both integrate and contribute to knowledge in the host community. The NGOs forum discussion underscored the work UNESCO and many NGOs are doing in this field to give value to the human person. Educators are encouraged to consider including the topic of resilience in learning curriculum. The learning through GCE builds global consciousness as well as global competencies for both educators and migrants.

14. **Migrants integration is fostered through Interreligious and Intercultural Education.** This education creates space for encounter and interaction of faiths and cultures to strengthen values that help in overcoming vulnerability and contribute to building resilience.
15. **The use of symbols and spaces that go beyond languages.** NGOs are doing much and should continue to use theatre, sports, and common human needs such as laughter to educate and promote migrant integration.

V. Management of Information on Migration

16. **Humanity not numbers** should be a foundation for ethical, fair and transparent reporting on migration. The forum indicated that objectivity should go hand-in-hand with integrity. Media information on migration should not ignore or hide facts because it affects the journalists' convictions, rather it must provide the opportunity for all side of the story to be heard. In same light, the use of right-based language is critical to providing information on migration.
17. **Journalism of solution.** The Media can build a new perspective on migration by publishing information on how migrants have helped develop societies. It is the duty of the journalists as citizens, and by extension the media to inform the populace on what is happening based on facts and statistics.

VI. Follow up pilot projects

18. **Take active step to mainstream Youth and people living with different ability in migration discussions.** Self-esteem and identity for young people and people with different ability can be strengthened when they get more involved in the discourse being the most affected demographic.
19. **Create online platform for participants to the NGOs Forums** to further interact and deepen the work been done at the various levels. This will enable them build on the work already done by previous forums before the next forum.