

## Turning commitments into action: GCM National Implementation Plans and the catalytic value of the GCM Capacity Building Mechanism

### Dialogue with GCM Champion countries and donors

October 9, 2025, 9.00 -10.00 am

Room VIII, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

#### Background

Adopted in 2018, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) is the first intergovernmentally negotiated agreement to address international migration comprehensively. It sets out 23 objectives aimed at improving migration governance through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, underpinned by robust partnerships, political will, and resource mobilisation. To support implementation, the Compact established the Capacity Building Mechanism (CBM), which includes three key components: the Demand-Driven Facility (DDF) for short-term technical assistance, the Migration Multi- Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) for UN-pooled funding including joint programming, and the Migration Network Hub for sharing practices and knowledge resources.

The CBM has supported over 70 Member States in advancing GCM commitments. Many of these efforts have been led by Champion Countries, which model good practices and share innovations in migration governance. Several Champion Countries – including Kenya, El Salvador, and Ghana – have developed GCM National Implementation Plans, and others – including Malawi, Sierra Leone, and Sri Lanka – are following suit. These Plans serve as strategic instruments that adapt the Compact to national contexts and promote coherent, inclusive migration governance. They serve as key tools for coordinating across sectors, engaging diverse stakeholders, and preparing for meaningful participation in global review processes such as the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF).

Ecuador, the co-chair of the Champion's initiative, is now ready to showcase its GCM National Implementation Plan (2025–2029). The Plan is the product of an extensive, multi-stakeholder process supported by the UN Network on Migration through the DDF and funded by the European Union (EU). The Plan operationalises 15 GCM objectives across three pillars – economic inclusion, social inclusion, and migration governance. Ecuador is also the first country in the world to introduce a national-local model, paying special attention to the realities and good practices in both areas. This event, convened with the support of the UN Network on Migration, will showcase Ecuador's approach while also serving as a space for Champion Countries and partners to reflect on the broader significance of the CBM for GCM implementation, regional cooperation, and preparation for the 2026 IMRF.

#### Objectives

- **Showcase Ecuador's new GCM National Implementation Plan (2025–2029):** Present Ecuador's innovative approach to operationalizing the GCM, including its national-local implementation model and multi-stakeholder planning process, as a leading example for other countries.
- **Promote peer learning among Champion Countries and encourage replication of good practices:** Facilitate dialogue on good practices and lessons learned in developing and operationalizing GCM National Implementation Plans, reinforcing the value of CBM - supported cooperation in scaling effective approaches and strengthening coordinated migration governance.
- **Support momentum toward the 2026 IMRF:** Underscore how sustained investment in and use of the CBM directly supports Member States in translating GCM commitments into action, preparing substantive contributions to the IMRF, and promoting policy coherence across national, regional, and global levels.

#### Participants

- Champion countries' representatives
- EU Delegation to the UN
- Donor country representatives

### Agenda

When	What	Who
6 mins	<b>Welcome and opening remarks</b>	Catalina Devandas, Special Envoy for the IMRF  Representative of the European Union - TBC
14 mins	<b>Presentation of Ecuador's GCM National Implementation Plan</b>	Ambassador Alejandro Dávalos, Vice-Minister of Human Mobility – Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility (MREMH)
35 mins	<b>Champion Countries and Donors Dialogue</b> <i>Harnessing the GCM Capacity Building Mechanism to strengthen migration governance and scale up coordinated international support</i>  Moderated discussion guided by the following questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How have GCM National Implementation Plans helped turn commitments into action, and what lessons can we learn from their development and implementation?</li> <li>2. How can Champion Countries enhance cooperation, knowledge sharing, and partnerships – using the Capacity Building Mechanism – to strengthen implementation and reporting ahead of the IMRF?</li> <li>3. What opportunities exist to scale up collaboration and amplify the collective impact of Champion Countries in lead up to the 2026 IMRF?</li> </ol>	<u>Keynote speaker:</u> Ugochi Daniels, IOM Deputy Director General  <u>Moderated by:</u> Catalina Devandas, Special Envoy for the IMRF
5 mins	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Ambassador Alejandro Dávalos, Vice-Minister of Human Mobility – Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility (MREMH)