

## Key Takeaways of the side event

### *The Workforce for the Future*

### *International Skills Partnerships for the Green and Just Transition*

Host countries: Belgium and Australia

Moderators: International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Enabel, Belgian Development Agency

Participants:

- Union of Metallurgical Industries and Trades (UIMM) – International Organisation of Employers (IOE)
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Development Center
- World Bank
- Labour Mobility Partnerships (LaMP)
- Bond’Innov
- Agence nationale de Promotion de l’Emploi et des Compétences (ANAPEC) - Maroc

In line with [Round Table 4](#) of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) looking at Labour Mobility and the economic inclusion of migrants as a leverage for sustainable development, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Enabel, the Belgian Development Agency hosted an official side-event during the 14<sup>th</sup> GFMD Summit in Geneva addressing the needs, opportunities, challenges, approaches and practices to leverage skills mobility for the just and green transition. The organizers were able to count on the presence and contribution of various relevant stakeholders active in different domains such as international and civil society organizations, or private representatives, which allowed to foster the sharing of cutting-edge solutions and best practices, igniting collaboration among participants to enhance skills partnerships.

#### *Needs, opportunities and challenges*

In the context of the green and just transition, the labour market is increasingly confronted to challenges pertaining to green skills shortages and evolving demands (e.g. waste management and production decarbonization). As a result, there is a pressing need for innovative solutions and the development of sustainable resilience (IOM). This underscores the continued necessity for additional cross-disciplinary skills (UIMM), partially delivered through labour mobility. To be able to enhance the numbers and respond to all parties’ needs, there is a need for a structured industry

of labour mobility (LaMP) across skills. This can be reached through specific approaches such as the Global Skills Partnerships (GSP) involving skills, vocational, and technical training. Successful integration of human mobility into these skills mobility initiatives has been demonstrated (OECD), emphasising the potential for mutually beneficial outcomes through regular migration pathways across various sectors, both in the origin country and the destination (WB). Such approach requires key development actors to support bilateral cooperation between governments and between the private and public sectors to respond to the shortage of jobs in the countries of origin and destination (ANAPEC). In that sense, concrete initiatives are implemented to test the GSP approach and identify specific needs in training or professional development, support training and employment structures in countries of origin and create professional mobility schemes to respond to both countries' needs (Enabel, Bond'Innov).

### *Innovative solutions and best practices*

- The integration of labor mobility into the GSP approach requires extensive global collaboration involving diverse actors, such as international, national, public, private, and civil society organisations, along with diasporic engagement.
- It also requires focusing on identifying specific sectoral or stakeholder needs for workers and entrepreneurs.
- This commitment to international collaboration and mutually beneficial outcomes is evident in the practical implementation of initiatives like the *Pilot for Entrepreneurial Mobility - PEM* and *Towards a Holistic Approach to Labour Migration Governance and Labour Mobility in North Africa - THAMM* projects. These projects respectively introduce innovative circular mobility schemes for entrepreneurship (PEM) and a joint identification of labour shortages in critical sectors in countries of origin and destination (THAMM). These initiatives aim to foster strengthened knowledge, skills and partnerships, by embodying a fourfold win-win situation through mobility, for the employer, the candidate, the destination country, and the country of origin.
- It is only by finding an approach that benefits all parties concerned, their ecosystems and the individuals concerned, in line with the SDGs, that labour mobility can be a catalyst of development.