Migration Youth Forum 2020 was hosted by the UN Major Group for Children and Youth (UNMGCY) on 19 – 20 January 2020 in partnership with IOM and UNICEF and as an official event in the margins of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) summit.

68 youth civil society representatives and experts from 32 countries were gathered to discuss key youth priorities.

Building on the work of a global constituency of youth, we have arrived at a detailed set of policy recommendations. They can be summarized as such:

**Engage us.** Engage youth meaningfully in decision-making processes at all levels.

Youth must be engaged to create the future we want: we are not only beneficiaries, but agents of change. For this to happen, local youth voices need to be represented at all levels of decision-making processes. While we have started to gain access to global migration mechanisms, such as the GFMD process, we lack meaningful representation in key national and regional platforms where migration policies are made. Include youth in discussions at the Regional Consultative Processes, Review Forums, and national decision-making processes.

**Invest in us.** Invest in youth-led projects and programmes at all levels.

In response to migration challenges, participants shared examples of innovative and responsive solutions benefiting both origin and destination countries. For example, in response to the inflow of Colombian and Venezuelan migrants in Ecuador, youth created a community-based program which provides psychological and social support for migrants. In response to the absence of labour and decent jobs for migrant youth, Rwandan youth from a refugee- and youth-led organization began providing professional training for young girl migrants, integrating them into the local economy. These are just a few examples from the Forum. Youth are already creating innovative projects and programmes responsive to the needs of their communities. Participants called for more funding to strengthen and continue their youth-led projects and programmes.

**Count us in.** Collect more and better data on all migrant children and youth.

Participants recognized the need for more and higher quality data on migrants disaggregated by age, gender, and other factors; to know the number and profiles of the migrant children and youth impacted; and subsequently, to design policies and programmes to address their age-specific challenges and also include them in the conversation. This was also discussed with reference to other marginalized groups, including survivors of human trafficking and/or sexual and gender-based violence; ethnic minorities; LGBTQI people; and etc. Participants called for more inclusive data collection and methodology, and correspondingly, the development of public policies that will grant greater access to social, legal, and labour protection systems for migrant children and youth irrespective of legal status.