Civil Society Programme 2018
Global Forum on Migration and Development – Marrakesh, Morocco

“Goals, Compacts, Action: Human mobility that works for migrants and societies”

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PRACTICAL AND LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

A. STRUCTURE OF THE GFMD 2018

Please consult the current draft GFMD Civil Society Days Concept and Programme for detailed information on the Civil Society Days events. Regarding the government programme, please check the GFMD website.

B. THE GFMD VENUES

The full programme of the GFMD Civil Society Days, on 4 and 6 December, will be organized at the Hotel Palm Plaza in Marrakesh. This includes CSD side events. The hotel is located in the new tourist area of Marrakech, a 10 minute drive from the airport and close to the famous Jemaa El Fna Square and all major tourist attractions.

Address: Hotel Palm Plaza, Avenue 7ème Art, Agdal, Marrakesh 40000
Phone number: +212 524 388 700

Participation in GFMD Common Space (Wed 5 Dec), and the final Government Day (Fri 7 Dec) Please note that all civil society participants are invited to attend GFMD Common Space AND the second GFMD Government Days, using their GFMD CSD Badge to access the venue. The GFMD Common Space and Governments Day 2 will take place at Hotel Palmeraie Golf Palace, commonly called PGP Hotel, Marrakesh. The address is Circuit de la Palmeraie Marrakesh 40000, Maroc.

Transportation will be organized between the Palmeraie Hotel and the Palm Plaza Hotel on the morning and evening of 5th and 7th December.

Please note that CSD observers will not have access to Common Space or the GFMD Government Days unless they have registered through the separate official Government Days process.

VENUE ACCESS CSD + PROCEDURE TO OBTAIN SECURITY ID BADGE

As in all prior GFMDs, participants are required to obtain and carry a GFMD CSD badge in order to get access to CSD venues. The same badge will give you access to the CSD, Common Space (5 December) and Government Day 2 (7 December).

Badges can only be prepared for those delegates who send a copy of their passport to contact@gfmdcivilsociety.org, before the 9th November.
From 6pm – 8pm on the evening of 3rd December, a Civil Society Days registration and information desk will be provided for the participants on-site at the Palm Plaza. The desk will re-open again from 7.30am on the 4th December. Registration will be mandatory for participants in order to receive access badges and documentation for the GFMD CSD.

C. VISA AND IMMIGRATION CLEARANCE

Each delegate must make their own arrangements to obtain a visa for Morocco. Any participant requiring a visa is strongly encouraged to contact the appropriate consular authorities as soon as he or she has registered for the CSD (The issuance of a visa for Morocco may take up to six weeks from the date of submission of the visa application). You will find here the list of Moroccan consular authorities https://www.consulat.ma/en.

All participants who require a visa will receive an official visa letter (letter of confirmation of participation) by Monday 5 November. If you need a letter and don’t receive it by Tuesday 6th, please write to us at contact@gfmdcivilsociety.org.

For countries with Moroccan consulates or embassies, participants have to get in touch with the respective Moroccan diplomatic representations to obtain the appropriate visa. You will have to provide the necessary documents:

- a completed visa Form (from the local embassy)
- Copy of passport with validity of more than 90 days
- 2 identity photos (4*3cm),
- An identity card or permit of residence,
- Letter of Confirmation of Participation (which we will send to you)

For countries without Moroccan consulates or embassies, participants must follow the following procedure:

1. Receive the letter of confirmation and participation
2. Prepare the required documentation
   - a completed visa Form,
   - Copy of passport with validity of more than 90 days
   - 2 identity photos (4*3cm),
   - An identity card or permit of residence,
   - Letter of Confirmation of Participation (which we will send to you)
3. Send the scanned copy of the above documents to: GFMD2018-visa@maec.gov.ma and tariksissou@yahoo.fr.
   **Important note:** if you are also attending the Intergovernmental conference on 10-11 December, also copy GMCMigration-visa@maec.gov.ma to the same email.
4. You will receive a Visa Confirmation Letter by email. You will have to present this along with the GFMD Letter of Confirmation of Participation to the authorities at the airport of departure.
All foreign delegates entering the Kingdom of Morocco must carry a passport with minimum validity period of three (3) months.

*Important for your arrival in Marrakesh:* it is mandatory to fill a migration document at the airport. On this form, please indicate the address of the hotel you will be staying in.

*Important for your return flight:* You must be aware about the immigration procedure at the Marrakesh airport. Electronics ticket won't be accepted at Marrakesh airport; you should hold a paper ticket to enter the airport and your boarding pass must be stamped at your airlines desk before going through security and immigration controls. You must therefore be at the airport at least 2.30 hours before your flight departure.

**D. HOTEL RESERVATION**

Each participant must book his / her own hotel room directly, except those who have been notified to receive funding from the GFMD Civil Society Coordinating Office. Funded participants will be hosted at the Hotel Palm Plaza. Both partially and fully funded delegates selected for funding will be reached out to with next steps by 9 November.

For non-funded delegates, due to the travel between venues on two days of the GFMD this year, we strongly recommend staying within walking distance of the Palm Plaza Hotel. We recommend you make your own arrangements online as soon as possible, via websites such as [www.booking.com](http://www.booking.com).

**E. RECORDING MATERIAL AND DOCUMENTATION**

Accreditation to record the GFMD

Any participant – including media - who wishes to use recording material (audiovisual material, including phones, video cameras or cameras,) into Morocco for the purpose of recording material at the GFMD CSD or any other activities during Migration Week must receive accreditation to do so with the Moroccan government.

To receive this accreditation, the following accreditation form must be filled in: [https://gfmd.org/eleventh-gfmd-summit-meeting-registration-landing](https://gfmd.org/eleventh-gfmd-summit-meeting-registration-landing) and submitted to support.unit@gfmd.org before 12 November.

**Printing shop**

For any necessary printing or copying during the GFMD CSD you can refer to the following printing shop:

El Watyana - [http://www.elwatanya.ma/](http://www.elwatanya.ma/)
Address: Rue Abou oubaida daoudiate, Marrakech 40000, Morocco
Contact: Mr Rachid korchi
         rkwatanya@gmail.com
         +212 6769 55564 / +212 5243-03774

You will be able to pay through bank transfer and your material can be delivered directly to the GFMD CSD Venue.
F. INTERNET ACCESS AND USE OF PHONES

All hotels and venues have access to free wifi and internet (passwords will be available there). When dialing a Moroccan phone number, please use the international country code of Morocco: +212.

G. TRANSPORTATION

Arrival by plane

There is one international airport in Marrakesh:
Marrakesh Menara Airport:  https://www.marrakesh-airport.com/
It is located 5 kilometres from Marrakesh city centre, and a 10 minutes’ drive from the Palm Plaza Hotel.

For participants who will receive funding, the hotel will organize free shuttles from the airport to the hotel and vice versa.

The main method of transportation in Marrakech is by taxi. From Marrakesh Menara Airport to Hotel Palm Plaza (GFMD CSD Venue), the price of the trip fare should be no more than 100 Dirhams.

It is recommended for the participants to convert roughly 200 Dirhams upon arrival at the airport for a taxi ride into the city center – taxis do not accept credit card payment.

There are public buses from the airport to go to the city center; with the bus no. 19 you can transfer from Marrakech Airport to further destinations within the city such as Hivernage, Bab Doukkala, Marrakech railway station, Jemaa el-Fna, Gueliz, etc. for 30 Dirhams. You can find more information under this link. There is no public bus from the airport to the Palm Plaza Hotel.

Transportation During Civil Society Days

Shuttle

For transportation related to the GFMD programme, shuttles will be organised from the Palm Plaza Hotel to the GFMD Government venue.

Taxi

As mentioned above, taxi is the most common method of transportation in Marrakesh. From the Palm Plaza Hotel to the city center (“la medina”) the trip fare should be no more than 50 Dirhams.

You can find two different kinds of taxis in Marrakesh: the ‘small’ taxi and the ‘big’ taxi. You will notice that all the ‘small’ taxis have a meter, please make sure that the driver activates it once you get on the car. If the taxi doesn’t have a meter, we advise you to negotiate a fare before getting into the car, starting from 20 Dirhams. The ‘big’ taxis do not have meters and it is advised to avoid them inside the city center and in front of the hotel.

Public Transport

From Palm Plaza Hotel, you will find one public bus going towards the city center (sidi Mimoune, close to Jamae Lafna), bus N°25, which stops in front of the supermarket, Al Mazar every 45 min.
**H. LANGUAGE**

The official languages in Morocco are Arabic and Berber. French is also widely spoken and understood. The CSD will be held in English, Spanish and French, with interpretation for all three provided. For some activities such as side events, interpretation might not be available. This will be indicated closer to the event. In order to receive a headset for interpretation, you will have to leave your ID card at the equipment desk. Please take care of your headset during the entire GFMD CSD. Loss of the headset may result in a financial compensation for the loss.

**I. MIGRATION WEEK 4 – 11 December**

In addition to the GFMD CSD, many other international events related to migration will take place from the 4th to the 11th of December as part of Migration Week. You will find an overview in the calendar below.

For more information and registration to other events taking place during Migration week, please see the following links:
- For the Diaspora Development Dialogue: ENGLISH: [https://bit.ly/2OqFGKg](https://bit.ly/2OqFGKg)
- For the Youth Forum on Migration (open to under-35’s only) [http://www.unmgcy.org/yf-oc/](http://www.unmgcy.org/yf-oc/)

**Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the Global Compact for Migration**

Migration Week will end with a major UN event to adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. The Conference will be held on 10th and 11th December 2018 in Marrakesh at Bab Ighli site. More than 5,000 people will attend the Conference. You will find all the updated logistical information for this Conference under this link: [http://www.un.org/en/conf/migration/assets/pdf/10-Oct-MOR.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/conf/migration/assets/pdf/10-Oct-MOR.pdf)
Important: Please note that this UN Conference is being organized through a different process. If you have any questions related to the Conference, you can reach out to gcmigration@un.org

J. CURRENCY AND CREDIT

The official Moroccan currency is the Moroccan Dirham (MAD). One Dirham = 100 cents, the smallest coin in use is 1 cent. The current exchange rate can be found at:
https://countryeconomy.com/currencies/morocco
https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert/?Amount=10&From=USD&To=MAD
(as of the 25th October; 100 MAD = 10,49 USD // 100 MAD = 9,25 EUR)

It is recommended to have a small amount of cash (500 MAD) on hand upon arrival or to have Euros or Dollars. Many hotels have money exchanges services. It is not advisable to change money at the airport, as the rate is higher than in the local banks. You can find exchange offices throughout the city open from Monday to Sunday from 9.00 to 10.00 pm. There are also automated teller machines (ATMs) that accept overseas bank cards and are accessible from outside. Please check with your local bank before departure whether your bankcard is valid in Morocco.

Taxis and most small merchants do not accept payment by credit card so make sure you have small amounts of cash with you at all times.

Most banks are open from Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 11.30 am and from 2.15 pm to 4.30 pm.

K. RESTAURANTS AND SHOPS
Shops
Shops are mainly open from Monday to Saturday from 9.00 am to 12.00 am and from 3.00 pm to 8.00 pm, though times may differ. Weekend days in Marrakesh are officially on Saturday and Sunday. Marrakesh is well-known for being a tourist destination in Morocco, with many shops, cafes and markets tailored for foreign guests. Please note that some shops may close on Friday afternoons and Sundays, especially the big ‘souk’ – artisanal market located at Jamae Lafna square.

The traditional market, also called, ‘souk’ is located in Jamae Lafna square. It is strongly advised to negotiate prices as you wouldn’t find them indicated on the product. You can start negotiating by offering half the starting price.

Restaurants
For traditional and local restaurants, the best places to eat are around Jamae Lafna square, where you will find a lot of outdoor traditional restaurants with a good variety of Moroccan dishes from 50 dirhams up to 200 dirhams.

For modern and international restaurants, the best area called Gueliz, a 10 min drive from Palm Plaza with dishes ranging from 100 dirhams up to 500 dirhams.

Historical places
Under this link, you will find all the information needed regarding touristic places with prices, opening hours and explanations

https://www.madein-marrakech.com/fr/monument.html

L. USE OF ELECTRIC AND ELECTRONIC ITEMS/ GADGETS
The whole country is equipped with 220 V with European standard plugs. Participants from abroad may need adaptors to use their electronic devices.

M. CLIMATE
In Marrakesh, the maximum average temperature is 14 °C in December. The temperature can rise to above 20°C, whilst average night time lows drops down to 6°C-8°C. December is one of the cooler months of the year in Marrakesh although temperatures remain fairly mild. Despite the cooler temperatures, there is around seven to eight hours of sunshine each day in Marrakesh, however, rain showers are common in December.


N. TIME
UTC/GMT +01 hours

Morocco recently decided to adopt the GMT + 01 for the whole year.
SECURITY INFORMATION

A. PARTICIPANTS’ RESPONSIBILITY
It is the responsibility of each participant to exercise appropriate vigilance, common sense and judgment on health and security matters. Everyone should carry their passport and have a copy of it with them.

It is the responsibility of each delegate to have their own health insurance.

A nurse will be present at the GFMD CSD Venue.

B. SECURITY IN THE CITY
Outside of programmed activities in conference and hotel venues, participants can move with caution and upon their own responsibility. At all times, participants are fully responsible for and requested to take care of their own valuable items, such as purses, wallets, jewelry and electronic devices.

C. IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS

Emergency number: 15

Emergency ambulance: 150 or 15

Hotel Palm Plaza
+212 524 388 700

GFMD CSD coordinating Office in Marrakesh:
Clara (ICMC): +41.76.578.26.46
A local number will be shared later.

Local organizers:
Azeddine (FMAS)
Number: +212 682 643 399

GFMD Civil Society Coordinating Office:

International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) / MADE
1, Rue de Varembé
1202 Geneva
Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 919 10 37
Email: contact@gfmdcivilsociety.org