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CITIES AND MIGRATION: CHALLENGE OR OPPORTUNITY?

REGIONAL OFFICE OF ARAB STATES

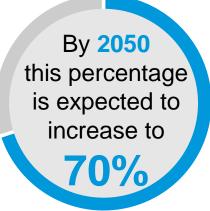


Global Phenomenon, Felt at Local Level

one in seven

people in the world is an internal or international migrant 54% of the World population were living in Cities in 2016

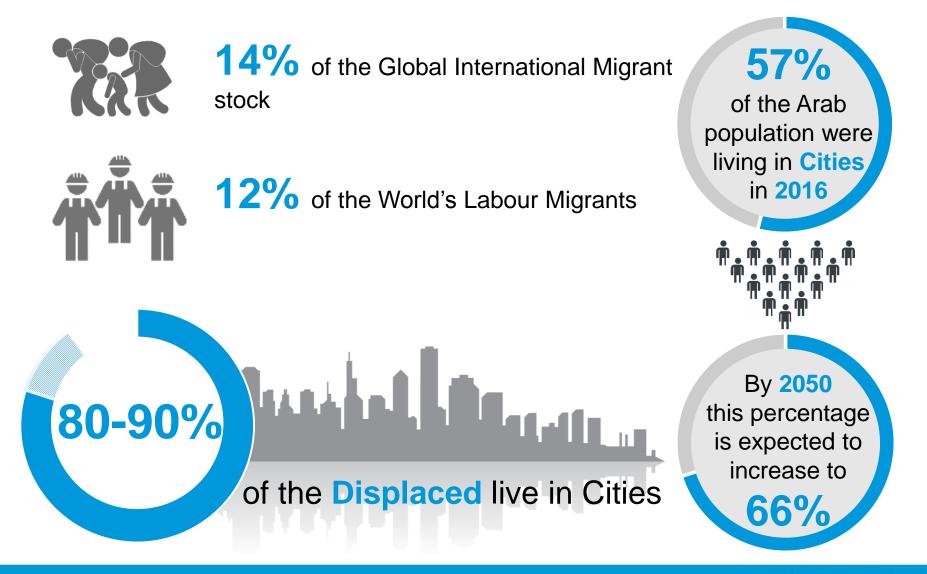




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Increasingly urban and protracted in the Arab Region



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Migration and Cities in Global Agendas



United Nations

3 February 2017



General Assembly

Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Migration





Migration in the New Urban Agenda

28. We commit ourselves to ensuring full respect for the human rights of refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants, regardless of their migration status, and support their host cities in the spirit of international **cooperation**, taking into account national circumstances and recognizing that, although the movement of large populations into towns and cities poses a variety of challenges, it can also bring significant social, economic and cultural contributions to urban life. We further commit ourselves to strengthening synergies between international migration and development at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels by ensuring safe, orderly and regular migration through planned and well-managed migration policies, and to supporting local authorities in establishing frameworks that enable the positive contribution of migrants to cities and strengthened urban-rural linkages.



Migration and Cities in Global Agendas



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Mechelen Declaration on Cities and Migration 2017

Call on States to consider in the development of the Global Compact on Migration:

- To recognize the support required for cities of origin, transit and return, as well as host destination cities, noting that they have committed themselves "to support host cities in the spirit of international cooperation, taking into account national circumstances"
- To systematically, and not external or non-governmental stakeholders treat local and regional governments as part of their nation-State
- To set up coordination mechanisms, whether formal or informal, to enable local and regional governments to contribute to migration policymaking within a whole-of-government approach with the goal of comprehensive, inclusive and coherent migration governance
- To enable integrated urban solutions that are inclusive
- To ensure the roles and responsibilities of local, regional and national governments on migration are clear, including as **implementers** of the National Migration Policy and National Urban Policy or, coherently, in both.
- To ensure that the allocation of resources to local and regional authorities as well as the service provision, is done in a manner proportional to the growth of the population under their jurisdiction, as well appropriate support in cases of large scale of migration flows
- Enhance the capacity for **disaggregated local level data-collection** and analysis, including for assessment reports and policymaking
- Recognize and provide support to local and regional governments in their joint responsibility with the State to ensure safety and access to justice for all.



MIGRATION AND INCLUSIVE CITIES: A GUIDE FOR ARAB CITY LEADERS





National Governments

- Embrace the principles of decentralisation, participation and community engagement
- Building the technical and administrative skills of their local staff members.
- Allow for more flexibility in the distribution of institutional responsibilities and enhance coordination across and within government levels

Civil Society
& Host
Communities

 Advocate for the participation of migrants and city newcomers in public consultations about local policy
 Partner with local government and migrants-run associations to foster migrants' access to local services and urban infrastructure and defy negative perceptions around them

 Provide specialized services to migrants to cope with their new communities and foster their self-reliance

Donor	 Work closely with local governments Prioritize interventions and durable solutions with long-term positive impacts on urban populations, including informal initiatives
Agencies	populations, including informal initiatives devised by migrants and vulnerable local citizens to help themselves

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