



Wilton Park

Concept

Global Compact on Migration: from political to practical

Wednesday 24 – Friday 26 October 2018

Wiston House, West Sussex, UK

Migration is one of the defining features of the 21st century. Human mobility is a reality: people have always moved and will continue to do so. Migration can contribute to all aspects of global economic and social development, including poverty reduction; the unlocking of this potential is key to States achieving the targets set out in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) provides an unprecedented opportunity to enhance international cooperation, raise global standards, address the needs of the most vulnerable, and shift the nature of the debate. This process aims to identify more balanced ways to address the challenges and maximise the positive contributions of migrants to economies and societies/communities.

Strategically timed ahead of the Marrakech Summit, this specially convened meeting will provide an early opportunity for key players to explore practical ways in which to move from political deliberation to the implementation phase of the GCM, where experimentation, new ways of working and collaboration will be key.

The invitation only event is being developed in collaboration with the Overseas Development Institute (ODI).

Aims

Through frank and off-the-record discussion under the Wilton Park protocol, the roundtable aims to:

- Explore the practical mechanisms for implementing and monitoring the implementation of the GCM, including the involvement of multi-stakeholder partnerships;
- Share best practice and innovative approaches, based on case studies and existing initiatives;
- Seek ways in which to enhance future collaboration, exploring the balance of interests and concerns between source, transit and destination countries;
- Develop and strengthen collaborative approaches through new partnerships and greater international cooperation.

Format

The proposal is for an expert residential roundtable, spread over 3 days/2 nights for up to 55 participants. The timetable is structured for 8-10 sessions, including a mixture of roundtable, group and plenary discussions. This format maximises opportunities for identifying policy and practical solutions and networking. It also allows for substantial informal discussion time during breaks, evenings and dinners.

Programme

The details of the programme will be developed as the negotiations progress over the coming months.

Participation

The Wilton Park roundtable will convene up to 55 experts including senior policy makers and practitioners drawn from: multi-lateral and regional bodies (eg AU, EU, ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNHCR, UNODC, World Bank), philanthropic foundations, civil society organisations, the private sector and selected origin, transit and destination countries (eg Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Germany, India, Italy, Jordan, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, South Africa, Sweden, Turkey, UK, US).

About Wilton Park

[Wilton Park](#), a not for profit executive agency of the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, provides a neutral residential environment for frank and forward-looking dialogue. Through expert facilitation, participants are encouraged to engage fully and openly.

Previous Wilton Park meetings in the migration series include:

[‘Forum on new approaches to protracted forced displacement’ \(WP1461\)](#) in April 2016, [‘Research and policy initiatives to tackle the exploitation, trafficking and modern slavery of refugee and displaced children \(WP1540\)’](#) in February 2017 and [‘The role of digital technology in tackling modern slavery \(WP1546\)’](#) in June 2017.

About ODI

ODI is an independent, global think tank, working for a sustainable and peaceful world in which every person thrives. We harness the power of evidence and ideas through research and partnership to confront challenges, develop solutions, and create change.

Read more about ODI's [work on migration and refugees](#)

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