







in partnership with









About

The Mayors Migration Council

The Mayors Migration Council (MMC) is a mayor-led organization that helps cities shape national and international action on migration and displacement. Our mission is to ensure that global responses to pressing challenges—from pandemics to the climate crisis—both reflect and address realities on the ground for the benefit of migrants, displaced persons, and the communities that receive them.

To fulfill our vision, we secure cities' formal access to and representation in national, regional, and international policy deliberations; build their diplomatic, advocacy, and communications skills so they can effectively influence decisions; unlock technical and financial resources so they can deliver better outcomes; and help cities implement local solutions efficiently and at scale to accelerate global commitments.

Created by mayors for mayors, we are a nimble team of political advisers and urban practitioners led by a leadership board composed of the mayors of Amman, Bristol, Freetown, Kampala, Los Angeles, Milan, Montreal, and Zürich. We are managed as a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors and operate with the institutional support of Open Society Foundations, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and the Robert Bosch Stiftung, in addition to other project-based donors.

The Global Cities Fund

The **Global Cities Fund** (GCF) is the MMC's response to the unmet needs of cities as they support migrants, refugees, and internally displaced people. By directly funding cities to implement inclusive response and recovery programs of their own design, the GCF builds precedents of fiscal feasibility in city governments that are often disregarded by donors with low risk tolerance. The GCF is led by the MMC in partnership with the UN Migration Agency (IOM), United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR).

The inaugural chapter of the GCF, the Global Cities Fund for Inclusive Pandemic Response, currently supports nine city grantees implementing projects that benefit over 8,000 migrants, refugees, and internally displaced people in the face of Covid-19, with contributions from the Open Society Foundations, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and the Robert Bosch Stiftung. The five inaugural city grantees' projects are described in this report.

To learn more, visit www.mayorsmigrationcouncil.org/gcf or contact fund@mayorsmigrationcouncil.org.



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Glossary of Terms

CIDEU - Ibero-American Centre for Strategic Urban Development

EU - European Union

FCC - Freetown City Council

GCF - Global Cities Fund

GCM - Global Compact for Migration

GCR - Global Compact on Refugees

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

IDPs - Internally Displaced Persons

ILO - International Labour Organization

IOM - The United Nations Migration Agency

INGOs - International Non-Government Organizations

IURC - International Urban and Regional Cooperation

OMA - Municipal Office of Service to Migrant Neighbors (Lima, Peru)

PCR - Polymerase chain reaction

SEDESA - Mexico City Secretariat of Health

SIBISO - Mexico City Secretariat of Social Inclusion and Welfare

SCC - Mexico City Secretariat of Security

STyFE - Mexico City Secretariat of Labor and Employment Promotion

UCCI - Union of Ibero-American Capital Cities

UCLG - United Cities and Local Governments

UNCDF - The United Nations Capital Development Fund

UNDP - United Nations Development Programme

UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund

UN-Habitat - United Nations Human Settlements Programme

URBELAC - Urban European and Latin American and Caribbean cities

Foreward

City Progress. Global Impact.

By:

Samer Saliba Head of Practice, Mayors Migration Council

Home to the majority of the world's migrants and seventy percent of the world's refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless people, cities are also disproportionately impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.¹ Of over 270 million confirmed cases since the start of the pandemic, most have been found in cities.²

When the MMC launched the Global Cities Fund for Inclusive Pandemic Response in collaboration with the IOM, UCLG, UNHabitat, and UNHCR in January 2021, we saw the opportunity to both provide city governments with emergency support to implement inclusive responses to Covid-19 and to show that a new way of working is possible.

Announced in January 2021, the GCF's inaugural city grantees—Barranquilla, Colombia; Beirut, Lebanon; Lima, Peru; Freetown, Sierra Leone; and Mexico City, Mexico—have made tremendous progress in delivering their projects and are on track to directly improve the lives of over 5,000 migrants, refugees, IDPs, and marginalized members of receiving communities, while strengthening their capacity to sustainably support countless more people.

At the same time, the GCF's global impact is growing in size and scope. We are making progress toward 22 by 2022, our call to action for international actors to work with the MMC and our partners to provide at least twenty-two cities with the financial support they need to carry out inclusive projects by the end of 2022. In June 2021, we announced additional financial contributions to support our active pipeline of city-led projects,³ paving the way for a new cohort of city grantees—Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Kampala, Uganda; Medellín, Colombia; and Quito, Ecuador.

Most recently, on the sidelines of the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, we launched a new chapter of the GCF in partnership with the Robert Bosch Stiftung and the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group. The Global Cities Fund for Inclusive Climate Action will provide city governments with technical and financial resources to support migrant and displaced communities affected by the climate crisis.

Building on these successes, we are actively seeking like-minded donors and partners to further build the case of the GCF as a proven initiative to meet the financial and technical resource needs of city governments in the face of global crises for years to come. The GCF's recent selection as one of the Paris Peace Forum's 10 Scale-up Projects for 2022 supports this aim.⁴

None of this would be possible without the impactful and inspiring local actions of our inaugural city grantees. Their progress represents the potential of countless other cities to lead a transformative and inclusive urban recovery in the face of the challenges of our time. But they need the resources and partnership to do it well.

The purpose of this progress report is to tell the stories of the GCF's first five city grantees. While they're just getting started, we hope these five cities can inspire our international colleagues to view city governments as equal partners on issues of urban migration and displacement and to unlock their potential to improve the lives of the millions of urban migrants and displaced people around the world.

We look forward to continuing our work with you in realizing the promise of the GCF and supporting city governments in achieving their core mandate of serving all their residents, regardless of where they come from.

The Global Cities Fund

for Inclusive Pandemic Response:

- Offers international donors a pipeline of vetted city-led proposals backed by strong mayoral leadership on migration and displacement issues.
- Directly channels international resources to city governments, building precedents of fiscal feasibility while assuming financial oversight and mitigating risk.
- **3.** Respects the agency, authority, and capacity of city governments and their local partners by supporting projects of cities' own design.
- Accelerates local efforts by providing city grantees with customized technical and advocacy support services, and by connecting them with city peers and international partners.
- Elevates city leadership and actions to a global audience of national governments, humanitarian and development agencies, and financial institutions, ensuring that global responses reflect and respond to local needs.
- Serves as a flexible, simple, and predictable funding mechanism with low overhead and high efficiency.

Our First Five Cities

In October 2020, during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, the MMC designed a selection process that would fund cities as soon as possible while ensuring an inclusive process. The MMC partnered with the IOM, UCLG, UN-Habitat, and UNHCR, among other notable international organizations and city networks,⁵ to develop a short list of cities invited to apply for the inaugural round of the GCF. The solicitation generated proposals from over twenty-five cities around the world. Over the months of November and December 2020, a selection committee of subject matter experts and government officials evaluated the proposals based on their anticipated impact, commitment from city leadership, and likelihood of institutionalization or replication, among other criteria.

Our Strategic Partners

As Strategic Partners of the Global Cities Fund, the IOM, UCLG, UN-Habitat, and UNHCR provide on-the-ground technical and coordination support to city grantees, advise on the development of the pipeline of

projects, and amplify the GCF's impact globally. The three UN agencies, IOM, UN-Habitat, and UNHCR, support city grantees in reaching migrant and displaced communities through client referrals or targeted support on client selection processes. They are also committed to ensuring that the GCF's projects tie to existing UN projects and initiatives implemented in relevant grantee cities.

The Cities

The MMC announced the five inaugural GCF city grantees in January 2021. They include Barranquilla, Colombia; Beirut, Lebanon; Freetown, Sierra Leone; Lima, Peru; and Mexico City, Mexico. Collectively, these five city governments are delivering projects that directly improve the lives of over 5,000 migrants, refugees, IDPs, and marginalized members of receiving communities while strengthening each city's commitment and capacity to sustainably support countless more people.

Barranquilla, Colombia

Barranquilla's project, *Todos*Somos Barranquilla, offers a
comprehensive suite of services
to over 100 clients, providing
them with specialized vocational
training, psychosocial support,
legal documentation support, and
direct access to over ninety of
Barranquilla's employers. Focused
on Venezuelan refugees, clients
include women, youth, victims of
armed conflict, and persons living
with disabilities.

Beirut, Lebanon

Beirut's project brings health care services closer to those in need. The Municipality of Beirut partnered with UN-Habitat Lebanon to purchase and deploy the city's first Municipal Mobile Health Clinic, which provides free and nondiscriminatory Covid-19 testing, vaccinations, and other basic medical services to individuals who are otherwise unable to access them. The mobile clinic goes where it is needed most, focusing on neighborhoods with a high percentage of refugees and migrants and limited access to health care facilities.

Freetown, Sierra Leone

Freetown's project expands the city's Waste Management Micro-Enterprise Program to forty new entrepreneurial teams to deliver waste collection services within informal settlements and to other Freetown residents. The project builds on gains made by eighty existing waste management microenterprises supported by the Freetown City Council. Through this expansion, the city ensures that more youth living in informal settlements, the majority of whom are rural migrants, can jointly improve their livelihoods.

Lima, Peru

Lima's project establishes the city's new Municipal Office of Service to Migrant Neighbors (OMA) in the Cercado de Lima district, which serves as a gateway for newcomers to the city. The OMA offers the district's residents and workers a suite of services related to employability, health, and case management for women at risk of gender-based violence, among other services, while also connecting them to existing social service centers. In addition, the project promotes healthy interaction between migrant and receiving communities in Lima.

Mexico City, Mexico

Mexico City's project builds on the newly established Municipal Income Protection Program to provide cash assistance to internally displaced persons while connecting them to national and local social services. The city's project reaches over 450 people in need of social assistance while connecting their families to support services related to employability, obtaining personal identification, public health services, and referrals.





First Cohort of Cities

Second Cohort of Cities

Prospectus Cities

Progress Overview

The first five cities of the Global Cities Fund are on track to collectively improve the lives of over 5,000 migrants, refugees, IDPs, and other marginalized city residents. To date, the cities have directly served 3,880 people with Covid-19 response and recovery programming, improving on their collective target of 3,000 people even before the close of their project time frames.

In addition to addressing the immediate needs of their migrant and displaced communities, all five city projects can be institutionalized, replicated, and/or scaled in the future. The Municipality of Lima's OMA is a promising model that could be replicated in other areas of Lima or in other cities looking to deliver holistic services to migrant and displaced communities. The Municipality of Beirut's first Municipal Mobile Health Clinic is currently focused on nondiscriminatory access to Covid-19 testing and vaccinations but may be used to address future public health crises.

All five cities have also made institutional commitments to support their migrant and displaced communities beyond their project time frames. The City of Barranquilla is actively fundraising for additional international support to continue its *Todos Somos Barranquilla* project as a permanent service offering of the city's Opportunities Center. Freetown City Council, meanwhile, is using its waste collection project's tricycle loan

repayment scheme to purchase additional tricycles to support further micro-enterprises.

These cities have shown an ability to leverage the GCF's targeted financial and technical investments that is unique to city governments. All five have used their own resources to support project implementation while turning to international and local partners for additional support. The cities have also learned from one another and from the Strategic Partners, either through the GCF's quarterly peer learning calls, dedicated technical trainings on topics such as community engagement, or through bilateral conversations between cities with similar project designs.

The progress these cities have made in just under one year represents the promise of the years to come. This is true not only for migrant and displaced communities within Barranquilla, Beirut, Freetown, Lima, and Mexico City, but for cities around the world that receive similar support.

Progress: By the Numbers

The Global Cities Fund's inaugural city grantees:

- Receive over 1 million migrants and displaced people.
- 2. Serve over **5,000** migrants, refugees, IDPs, and marginalized local residents.
- 3. Represent 3 continents and 5 countries, two of which are on the doorsteps of the world's biggest refugee crises.
- 4. Are implementing projects in collaboration with over 20 partners, including local migrant-led organizations and civil society, international humanitarian and development organizations, and national or regional governments.

Project Innovations

Apart from directly supporting clients through core project activities, each city found an innovative way to maximize its impact and go beyond its original ideas. Many of these innovations were not in the city's original project design but are a result of city government ingenuity.

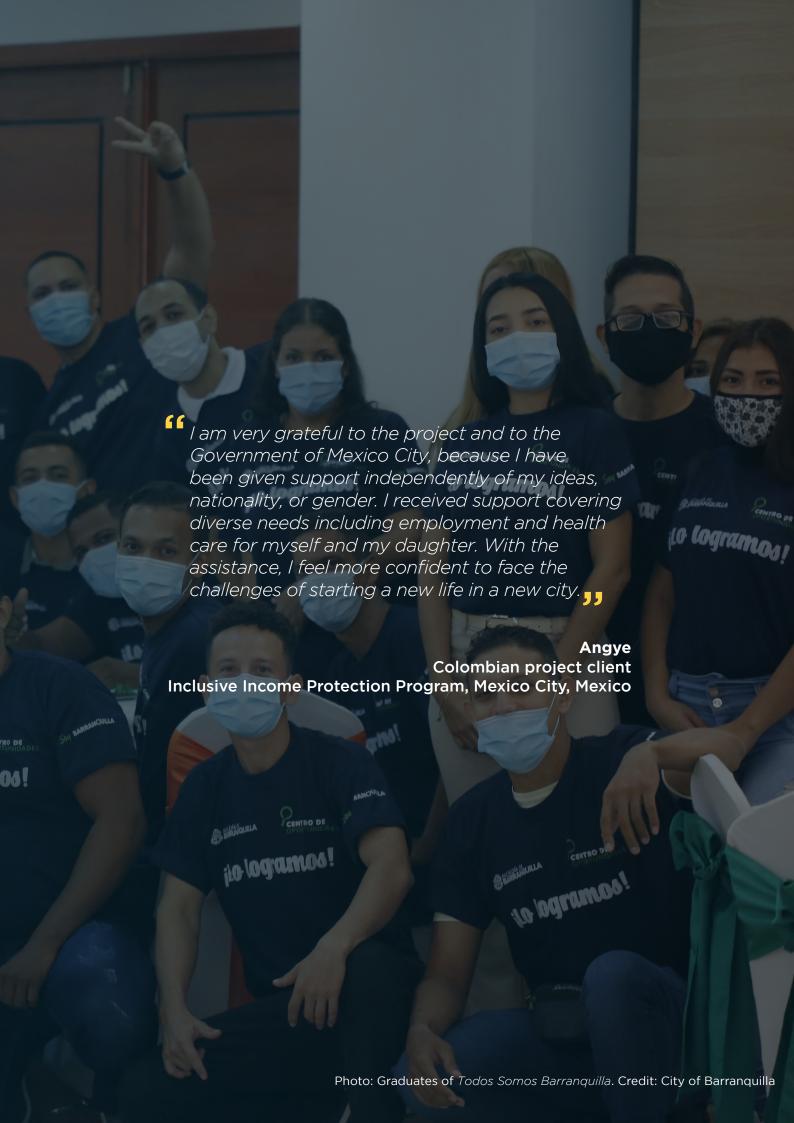
Barranquilla designed a unique client enrollment scheme that prioritizes applicants who tend to have fewer opportunities to find formal employment while still ensuring all applicants receive information regarding employment opportunities and access to social services.

Beirut directly engaged migrant, refugee, and marginalized Lebanese communities to identify the best use cases and locations for its first ever Municipal Mobile Health Clinic.

Lima piloted a new way of connecting international and local service providers to local communities through *migratones*, large community events where families can both receive services and celebrate their neighborhood.

Freetown designed a loan repayment scheme that allows its Waste Management Micro-Enterprise Program to sustain itself as it scales to help more people find work while creating a cleaner, greener city.

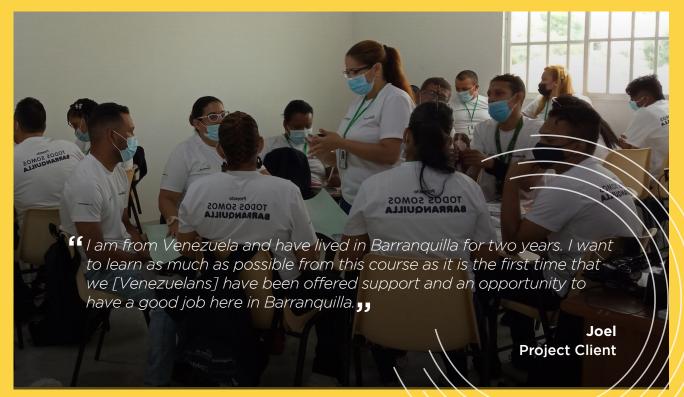
Mexico City, for the first time in its history, established a partnership between three key government secretariats—the Secretariat of Labor and Employment Promotion (STyFE), the Secretariat of Social Inclusion and Welfare (SIBISO), and the Secretariat of Health (SEDESA)—to deploy a coordinated response to the overlapping needs of migrants, refugees, and IDPs.





We are very happy that 111 migrants have initiated technical training and psychological support in the process of searching for job opportunities. More than 6,000 people applied to the project, reflecting the great need for new ways to connect migrants with the labor market. The Opportunities Center has accomplished extraordinary work, searching for businesses and employers willing to hire project graduates in the short term. Through this project, we are supporting migrants with tools and skills to provide for their families. We are committed to scaling up this initiative to reach many additional families from Barranquilla.

Ricardo Plata Sarabia Secretary of Economic Development



Barranquilla, Colombia Todos Somos Barranquilla (We Are All Barranquilla)



With this project, we have moved from an assistance model to an empowerment model. Project participants will increase control over their destiny because we are all one; we are all Barranguilla.

Mayor Jaime Pumarejo Heins

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Colombia is home to over 2 million Venezuelan refugees and 8 million internally displaced people. Barranquilla hosts nearly 100,000 foreign-born residents, approximately eight percent of its total population. Venezuelan refugees in Barranguilla face several barriers to finding employment and achieving self-reliance, including a lack of documentation, unfamiliarity with their new job market, and a lack of social networks. These barriers were compounded by Covid-19 when infection prevention measures halted the informal economy and further isolated Venezuelans and other newcomers to Barranguilla.

Barranquilla views migrants and refugees as an opportunity to strengthen the city's economy in the long term. The City of Barranquilla uses the Global Cities Fund to help over 100 refugees, migrants, IDPs, and other vulnerable Colombians overcome barriers to accessing the labor market and strengthening their ability to earn an income. The project Todos Somos Barranquilla provides selected clients with specialized vocational training coupled with psychosocial support, legal documentation support, and direct access to Barranquilla's employers. The city's Centro de Oportunidades

(Opportunities Center) oversees the delivery of the project.

Achievements

To solicit client interest, the Opportunities Center launched an online open call at the beginning of the project. The center received and evaluated an astounding 6,432 applications and selected 100 clients based on specific selection criteria. The evaluation prioritized applicants who tend to have fewer opportunities to find formal employment, such as people with disabilities, members of the LGBTQI+ community or people serving prison sentences. To maximize the value of the open call, project staff entered all applicants' resumes into the Opportunities Center database and used the database to communicate with applicants about employment opportunities and access to the city's suite of social services.

To date, the City of Barranquilla has provided 111 selected clients with soft skills and specialized training courses in high-demand trades such as logistics, customer service, food handling, and health care facilities. These courses help participants achieve the competencies, skills, certificates, and training referrals needed to hold formal jobs. To further prepare clients for success, the project

team recruited trained professionals to provide psychosocial support and individual career coaching. Several clients have signed employment contracts even before graduating from the project.

The city has also provided several wrap-around services to project clients and their immediate families, including a transportation subsidy, food, clothing vouchers, and a mobile phone data package. The project team has conducted eighty visits to clients' homes to assess their specific needs and refer them to the relevant local government departments for additional assistance.

To ensure clients have jobs waiting for them upon graduation from the project, the Opportunities Center contacted nearly 100 potential employers to identify job vacancies and required skills sets to inform the type of training provided.

Lastly, the project has strengthened the City of Barranquilla's collaboration with the Global Cities Fund's Strategic Partners UN-Habitat, IOM, and UNHCR.

Given these achievements, the City of Barranquilla received the *Premio Nacional de Alta Gerencia 2021* (National Top Management Award) by Colombian President Iván Duque and was also identified as a best practice case study by the international cities network URBELAC.

Looking Forward

The large number of applicants to the open call for only 100 vacancies demonstrates the significant barriers that migrant, refugees, and displaced persons face to access formal employment. The City of Barranquilla aims to strengthen and expand the Opportunities Center's work by developing a digital platform to better match employers' requirements to prospective candidates. In addition, the city is planning to recruit professional trainers and lower the implementation costs.

The Opportunities Center will encourage employers to hire project graduates well after the project closes. An expert team will maintain the relationship with participating employers and follow up on clients' progress.

In addition, the city aims to establish a coordination mechanism to align the work and services provided by all government units and departments working in social inclusion in Barranquilla.

MILESTONES

Place clients Delivered Completed Graduated Selected Organized 120 project soft skills eiahtv project clients. two events in formal and tailored individual employment. and individual participants from 6,432 vocational home visits visits to applicants training to assess potential based on courses each client's employers to project defined household and created selection clients needs and a database criteria and refer them to of companies weighting relevant city interested in hiring clients. system. services.

PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Todos Somos Barranquilla

OBJECTIVE

The City of Barranquilla has expanded the services of its Opportunities Center to help refugees, migrants, refugees, host population and internally displaced Colombians overcome barriers to access the labor market and earn an income to meet their basic needs and those of their families through the *Todos Somos Barranquilla* project.

Total Project Cost: US\$200,000 - \$400,000

Timeframe: Twelve months

Clients: 111 Venezuelan migrants and refugees, members of the host population and internally displaced Colombians. Of these, over fifty percent are women, seventy percent are migrants or refugees, and thirty percent are Colombians. Adding close relatives of the direct clients, the project has served over 500 people to date.

Lead Implementer:

- Barranquilla Mayor's Office
- Barranquilla Office of Inclusion and Productive Development (Opportunities Center)
- Barranguilla Office of International Relations

Implementing Partners:

- Codetec
- Cuso International
- IOM
- UNHCR
- UN-Habitat

City Networks and Partners:

- Cities: Race to Zero
- Ciudades Incluyentes (Inclusive Cities)
- International Urban and Regional Cooperation (IURC)
- Ibero-American Centre for Strategic Urban Development (CIDEU)
- UCLG
- Urban European and Latin American and Caribbean cities (URBELAC)

IMPACT

- The City of Barranquilla has strengthened its offerings to the migrant and displaced community.
- 2. Over 100 migrants, refugees, and IDPs generate income through formal employment and access employment opportunities.
- 3. Over ninety employers (local businesses) have changed their perception of the migrant and refugee community.
- 4. Project clients and their immediate families have increased awareness and access to the services offered by the City of Barranquilla.

Focus Areas:

Basic Services



Financial Stability



Safety & Social Cohesion



Housing



Education & Child Care



Health



Inclusive Governance





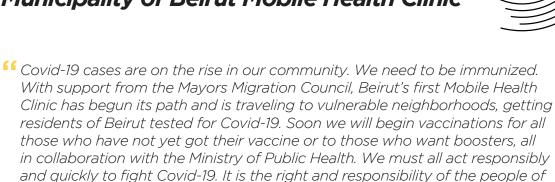
The Municipality of Beirut's first-ever Mobile Health Clinic serves not only as a crucial lifeline to those who are struggling to survive the pandemic, but a symbol of hope that Beirut will provide for all those who call this city home despite the many challenges that it faces.

Yusra Sidani Councilwoman, Municipality of Beirut



Beirut, Lebanon Municipality of Beirut Mobile Health Clinic

Beirut and they have our commitment to keep them safe.



Mayor **Jamal Itani**

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Lebanon has recently experienced several overlapping crises, including the August 4th, 2020, Beirut Port explosion, Covid-19, and economic collapse. Lack of medicine and electricity, overburdened hospitals, and soaring Covid-19 infection rates combined with low vaccination rates are disproportionally affecting people living in disadvantaged neighborhoods. Frequent lockdowns. transportation constraints, and lack of information on health services are further barriers to health care for many people, particularly women, refugees, migrants, and youth. To address these challenges, the Municipality of Beirut is piloting its first-ever Mobile Health Clinic, a flexible model of accessible health care delivery to underserved populations. The Mobile Health Clinic offers free and nondiscriminatory Covid-19 testing, vaccinations, and other healthrelated services to some of the city's most vulnerable populations. The clinic's services and locations are determined in part through the

community engagement of Beirut's Municipal Social Cell (MSC), a dedicated team of community mobilizers who create a space for dialogue between the Municipality of Beirut and local communities and community leaders.

Achievements

In the project's initial phase, the Municipality of Beirut worked with UN-Habitat Lebanon to conduct surveys and focus groups in selected neighborhoods to identify the services most needed by residents, including migrants and refugees. The conversations also served as an opportunity to familiarize residents with the launch of the clinic and to raise awareness of Covid-19 prevention methods.

Despite deteriorating local conditions and repetitive lockdowns during the initial months, the municipality has procured and outfitted the clinic and hired essential staff, including a full-time project coordinator. In parallel and in close coordination with the MSC, the municipality liaised with relevant partner

organizations to agree on the services and referrals to be offered through the MHC and how these would link with existing health systems and services.

To date, the municipality has started testing the clinic in selected areas and has performed over 160 PCR tests in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health. The clinic will begin offering vaccinations with support from the Lebanese Red Cross and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), referring clients to other health services, and providing medical kits with medicine and medical equipment. The clinic will also raise awareness about healthy behavior and disease prevention, distribute sanitation and protective equipment, and promote social cohesion between migrant, refugee, and Lebanese communities. Psychosocial support will include social workers' sessions to raise awareness against stigmatization and bullying based on Covid-19.

The project has strengthened the existing collaboration between the Municipality of Beirut and UN-

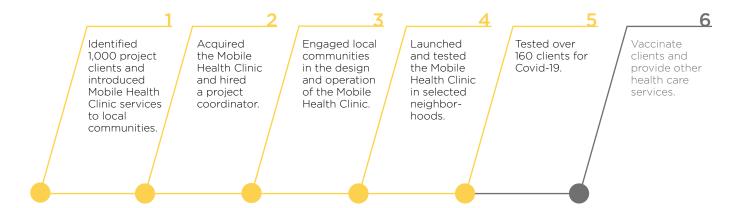
Habitat Lebanon, as well as other project partners such as UNICEF, the Lebanese Red Cross, UNHCR, and the Ministry of Public Health.

Looking Forward

Beirut is heading toward an uncertain future. Poverty and unemployment levels are rapidly rising, medicine and electricity are increasingly scarce, and many residents are leaving the country. For those already among the most vulnerable, the situation continues to worsen. Faced with this reality, the Municipality of Beirut is dedicated to building on the experience of the Mobile Health Clinic to continue delivering flexible services to those who need them the most while strengthening its accountability toward all of Beirut's residents.

To close other gaps in service delivery, the Municipality of Beirut will maintain and expand its close relationship with project partners and other humanitarian organizations working in Beirut to respond to the urgent and increasing public health needs in a coordinated, complementary, and effective manner.

MILESTONES



PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Municipality of Beirut Mobile Health Clinic

OBJECTIVE

The Municipality of Beirut has launched its first-ever Municipal Mobile Health Clinic to provide free and nondiscriminatory Covid-19 testing and other basic medical services to any individual who is unable to access them, including migrants and refugees in marginalized neighborhoods.

Budget: US\$200,000 - \$400,000

Timeframe: Eighteen months

Clients: 1,000 direct clients receiving health services, including 500 migrants/refugees and 500 Lebanese.

Lead Implementer:

Municipality of Beirut

Implementing Partners:

- UN-Habitat
- Ministry of Public Health
- UNICEF
- Lebanese Red Cross
- UNHCR

Focus Areas:

Basic Services



Financial Stability



Safety & Social Cohesion



and other health Housing



Education & Child Care



Health



Inclusive Governance



IMPACT

- 1. 1,000 clients have been tested and/or vaccinated for Covid-19.
- 2. Migrants, refugees, and marginalized Lebanese residents have received adequate support to meet their personal or family health needs.
- 3. The Municipality of Beirut has strengthened its capacity to provide equitable health services and holds itself accountable to marginalized communities.



As a city, we are glad that we are able to cater to our refugees and internal displaced persons living in Freetown. With this project, more refugees and internal displaced persons will be empowered. The funds from the loan scheme will be used to purchase additional tricycles. By so doing, we are expanding our waste collection capacity and providing jobs and livelihood opportunities for our residents.

Augustine Kamara
Project Coordinator, Waste Management Micro-enterprise Program





Freetown, Sierra Leone Waste Management Micro-Enterprise Program

66 All residents, especially migrants, have a role to play in helping Freetown emerge from this pandemic more equitable, more sustainable, and more prepared for the future.

Mayor **Yvonne Aki-Swyerr**

PROJECT OVERVIEW

As Freetown's population has more than doubled in size over the past twenty years, over thirty-five percent of the city's estimated 1.2 million residents live in low-income informal settlements where density, sanitation, and a reliance on meager daily wages were daunting challenges even before Covid-19. With support from the Global Cities Fund, Freetown City Council (FCC) is addressing these interlinked challenges through an innovative community-led waste collection and disposal project.

An expansion of Freetown's Waste Management Micro-Enterprise Program,⁶ the Global Cities Fund project has supported 240 youth—seventy percent of whom are migrants—to establish forty sustainable waste management enterprises. The enterprises deliver waste collection services and cleaning of public spaces in ten informal settlements and other areas of the city. The project is based on a self-sustaining model where the enterprises pay back eighty percent of the equipment costs to the city over two years. The innovative financing feedback

loop enables FCC to purchase tricycles for new enterprises, while the sustainable income earned by the clients paves the way for a brighter future for many young migrants who have come to Freetown searching for one.

Achievements

At the start of the project, FCC selected forty waste collection enterprises out of 144 applicants. Each enterprise team comprises at least six people, including a team leader, marketer, finance officer, waste collectors and tricycle rider. To prepare them for success, FCC provides the teams with business skills training, sanitation tools, and mentorship corresponding to each member's area of responsibility. FCC also helps the teams open bank accounts and market their services to potential customers.

To date, the city has procured and is assembling forty tricycles, engaged three garages for tricycle maintenance, and set up the loan repayment scheme. The teams are included on the city's www.findmeinfreetown.com

platform, where Freetonians can find waste services providers in their communities. The teams have begun cleaning streets and public spaces on behalf of the city government, and most teams have started customer registration. Once the tricycles are distributed, the enterprises start waste collection from registered customers. Subsidized waste management services can be accessed as needed through the FCC, promoting efficient and equitable waste management. Waste pickers bring collected waste to one of seven recently established transfer stations or the two legal dumpsites in Freetown. In turn, FCC will close several of the current sixty-eight illegal dumpsites in Freetown.

FCC has taken several safety measures to reduce risks for female clients, such as starting public space cleaning early in the morning, coordinating with community police, and connecting the teams with the community police toll-free line to report incidents of harm.

Once their loans have been repaid, enterprises assume full ownership of their tricycles and decide whether to continue cleaning public spaces or to work solely as a private enterprise. They may purchase more tricycles, extend services to other areas, and/or provide additional waste management services.

Looking Forward

The Freetown City Council is committed to transforming Freetown using an inclusive, datadriven approach to address city challenges. This project pilots an innovative financial mechanism to be incorporated into the existing Waste Management Micro-Enterprise Program. To sustain and scale the Global Cities Fund initial investment, FCC will directly fund fifty percent of tricycles purchased beyond this project time frame, allowing the city to continue to reach the most vulnerable Freetonians while creating a cleaner, greener Freetown for all.

MILESTONES



PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Waste Management Micro-Enterprise Program

OBJECTIVE

Freetown City Council is providing green livelihood opportunities for migrant, refugee, and marginalized youth living in informal settlements while improving waste management throughout Freetown.

Focus Areas:

Budget: US\$200,000-400,000

Timeframe: Sixteen months

Clients: 240 youth residents from informal settlements. Twenty-five percent are women, and seventy percent are rural migrants or refugees.

Lead Implementer:

Freetown City Council

Implementing Partners:

- IOM
- UNCDF

City Networks and Partners:

C40 Cities

Financial Stability

Basic

Services

Safety & Social Cohesion

Housing

Education & Child Care

Health

Inclusive Governance

2.0.0



IMPACT

- 1. 240 youth in informal settlements have access to green livelihood opportunities, including 180 young rural migrants and at least sixty women.
- 2. At least 1,500 households have improved access to waste collection services, sanitary conditions, and reduced waterway and water point contamination.
- 3. Freetown City Council has strengthened capacity to support service delivery, job creation in informal settlements, and improved the public health of its citizens.

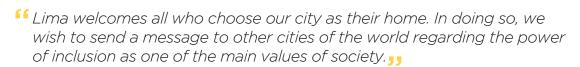


The migratón community events were not included in the project's original work plan. Initially, we set up a stall, and migrants and refugees lined up to get assistance. But we realized that there were no children and came up with the idea to combine service delivery with recreational activities so that children and youth could also participate. We organized a pilot, and it was a great success. Before, parents used to come for a short time to the events because they didn't know where to leave their children. But with the migratón, the children have a safe space to stay, and the father or mother can attend and check the different services offered.

Jhonatan Acuña
Proiect Coordinator



Lima, Peru Municipal Office of Service to Migrant Neighbors



Mayor Jorge Muñoz Wells

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Peru is home to over 800,000 Venezuelan migrants and refugees, most of them settling within the capital city of Lima. While Lima offers them relative safety and new opportunities, they face significant challenges finding stable work, medical care, housing, education, and early childhood services. The arrival of Covid-19 has only exacerbated these challenges, making life harder for those already struggling.

To address these challenges, the Municipality of Lima is using the Global Cities Fund to pilot a new model of social service delivery within the Cercado de Lima district. an area of the city that acts as an entryway for migrants and refugees arriving in Lima. The model is centered around the new Municipal Office of Service to Migrant Neighbors (OMA), which has six locations operating within Cercado de Lima community centers. These new offices offer migrants and refugees a holistic suite of services from different city government departments and civil society partners, all aimed at improving their living conditions and well-being. In addition, the OMA promotes healthy interaction between long-standing residents of Lima and their new

neighbors through different cultural activities in public spaces.

Achievements

Eleven months into its project, the Municipality of Lima has coordinated the service offerings of different city governmental departments, liaised with private organizations, and built strategic partnerships with local and international organizations, including migrant associations, to deliver an integrated response at the local level to migrants and refugees through the OMA. The newly opened offices offer a space where migrants, refugees, asylum-seekers, and members of the receiving community can interact and work together. The OMA provides a range of services. including employability workshops, access to health care, social assistance, and support for victims of violence. To date, the OMA has assisted nearly 3,000 clients.

Because migrants and refugees tend not to approach city government offices, the OMA brings services and activities directly to clients. The OMA has conducted six community walks to map areas with a high concentration of migrants and refugees, identify their specific needs, and raise awareness about the new office's services. The OMA utilizes public open spaces for cultural and artistic activities that bring the community together. So far, migrants and receiving community members have jointly beautified six public spaces through mural paintings. Once a space is beautified, the OMA works with local community members to host different activities in these spaces, open to all.

The OMA has also organized two large community events, labeled *migratones*, to deliver city government services and those of the city's partners (including both migrant-led civil society organizations and international organizations), coupled with a range of recreational and sports activities for children and youth. These events bring the community together and educate the public about the culture and stories of migrants and refugees.

Lima's project has established a new way to support migrant and refugee families. Migrant associations are equal partners with the OMA and help organize and publicize the OMA's activities. The municipality has identified nearly forty Venezuelan civil society organizations in Lima's migrant neighborhoods and is supporting their registration process into the city's official Civil Organizations Registry. The OMA has already supported the registration of three organizations. Once an organization is formalized, migrants can participate in municipal activities such as the participatory budgeting process.

Looking Forward

In the absence of a national policy on migrant and refugee communities, Lima's pilot project shows how city governments can lead holistic and collaborative approaches to migrant and refugee inclusion in partnership with migrants and refugees themselves, not only meeting their needs but including them in decision-making and service delivery.

The Municipality of Lima plans to keep operating the OMA in Cercado de Lima. Based on experience and lessons learned through this project, the municipality will develop institutional and management tools to scale up this initiative at the city level and use it to institutionalize Lima's emerging policy on including migrants and refugees as equal citizens of the city.

MILESTONES

Upgraded six Conducted Secured resources Opened six Hosted two Organize two for the OMA, six neighbor-**OMA** locations public open large social additional including six hood and delivered spaces in service migratones. physical office mapping services to partnership community with local spaces and exercises. the target events fourteen staff population. communities. (migratones). members, and trained thirty city government personnel on issues of human mobility.

PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Municipal Office of Service to Migrant Neighbors

OBJECTIVE

ocunación al personal de The Municipality of Lima is connecting migrants and refugees in the Cercado de Lima district to the city's broader suite of social services and facilitate their safety and well-being as active members of their new communities.

Budget: US\$800,000-\$1,000,000

Timeframe: Fourteen months

Clients: Over 3,000 migrants, refugees, and members of the receiving community within the Cercado de Lima district.

Lead Implementer:

- Metropolitan Lima Municipal Government
 - Community Participation Department
 - International Cooperation Department

Implementing Partners:

- Fútbol Más Fundación
- ILO
- IOM
- Peruvian Red Cross
- **UNDP**
- **UN-Habitat**
- VeneActiva (Venezuelan-led CSO)
- World Vision

City Networks and Partners:

- CIDEU
- Mercociudades
- UCCI
- UCLG

Focus Areas:

Basic Services



Financial Stability



Safety & Social Cohesion



Housing



Education & Child Care



Health



Inclusive Governance



IMPACT

- 1. The Municipality of Lima has coordinated social services targeting migrants, refugees, and IDPs at the local level.
- 2. As many as 3,000 migrants and refugees have increased awareness of and access to the services offered by the city government and its partners.
- 3. Migrants and refugees are involved in city decision-making and service delivery.
- 4. Receiving community members have improved perceptions of the migrant and refugee community while reducing instances of discrimination and xenophobia.



The Government of Mexico City is committed to ensuring that all residents of the city have access to rights regardless of their social background, ethnicity or nationality. For over a decade, Mexico City has established laws, programs and government actions to achieve the full inclusion of these groups. Now, with the support of the Global Cities Fund, Mexico City is carrying out an important action to guarantee the rights of migrants and give them access to employment, regularize their immigration status, and address the effects of the pandemic, including effects on their health. We are assisting around 500 migrants and people in transient situations. We appreciate the support received. For us at the Government of Mexico City, it is important to be part of this initiative.

Oscar Ortiz
General Director, Department of Employment



Mexico City, Mexico

Inclusive Income Protection Program



Mayor Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The second-largest city in the Western Hemisphere, Mexico City is home to 1.7⁷ million residents born outside of the state or outside the country. With fifty percent of its residents working in the informal economy, the Government of Mexico City estimates that half a million informal jobs were lost due to the impacts of Covid-19 and infection prevention measures. The economic downturn has disproportionately affected migrants, refugees, returnees, and internally displaced persons who were already struggling to make ends meet in their new city.

Mexico City is using the Global Cities Fund to expand its income protection program and provide direct cash assistance to over 450 migrants, refugees, returnees and IDPs while connecting them to national and local social services aimed at helping them settle within the city.

Achievements

The Inclusive Income Protection Program has catalyzed a collaboration among three city government secretariats previously operating independently. For the first time, the Secretariat of Labor and Employment Promotion (STyFE), the Secretariat of Social Inclusion and Welfare (SIBISO), and the Secretariat of Health (SEDESA) have come together to deploy a holistic response to the main challenges facing migrants, refugees, and IDPs affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. This includes coupling direct cash assistance with services related to employability, obtaining personal identification, and access to health care.

In the initial stages of the project, the three secretariats jointly drafted the project guidelines, obtained necessary approvals, and pursued the mandatory procedures to initiate project implementation. This included publishing the project guidelines in the local Gazette, the city's main outlet for promoting social services. In parallel, they built a comprehensive baseline survey form to determine eligibility, identify clients' needs, and generate a database to monitor progress.

SIBISO identified prospective clients through its network of local and international organizations providing assistance and shelter to migrants, refugees, and IDPs. SIBISO also supports applicants in filling out the surveys, and facilitates the acquisition of identification documents. STyFE selects project clients, organizes the referrals to participant secretariats based on identified needs, provides employability services, delivers the cash assistance, and is responsible for keeping the electronic database with the registry of project participants and providing followup. SEDESA provides health care services and free medicine.

Once a client is enrolled in the program, the city government provides two types of support. First, access to government services from relevant collaborating government secretariats, and secondly, 5,600 pesos [US\$268] in cash assistance to cover their basic needs while participating in the program. The client is eligible to receive up to four different services. Even if an applicant does not qualify for

financial support, the city refers them to the relevant social services to ensure their self-sufficiency and integration into the city. To date, the project team has identified 720 migrants, refugees and IDPs eligible to receive at least one type of support. Over 400 of them have already received support, including 437 of the 495 clients who will receive income protection by the close of the project.

Looking Forward

Mexico City plans to sustain and institutionalize this program to support the integration of migrants, refugees and IDPs. The city government will strengthen and expand the institutional cooperation initiated among the three secretariats to include other public and private entities; deliver training to city government personnel on human mobility, migrants rights and legal frameworks; and support the development of a digital client database for government institutions to provide effective support and follow up while ensuring privacy and data protection.

MILESTONES

Implemented institutional coordination among three governmental secretariats: STyFE, SIBISO, SEDESA.

Jointly designed the project and published the official call for applicants in Mexico City's Gazette Reached out to local and international organizations to identify prospective clients. Recruited five full-time team members and trained a survey team. Implemented a baseline survey of 750 potential clients, of whom 720 qualified for program support.

Delivered financial support and/ or client referrals to relevant city services. Give exit questionnaires to selected clients to assess project impact at the conclusion of the program.

6

PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Inclusive Income Protection Program

"No se trata solo También se trata de

OBJECTIVE

Mexico City is providing cash assistance to 495 migrants, refugees and IDPs affected by the Covid-19 pandemic while connecting them to support services related to employability, obtaining personal identification, and access to health care.

Budget: US\$200,000-\$400,000

Timeframe: Twelve months

Clients: 720 Migrants, refugees, IDPs or returnee residents of Mexico City, at least half of them women.

Lead Implementer:

- Mexico City Secretariat of Labor and Employment Promotion (STyFE)
- Mexico City Secretariat of Social Inclusion and Welfare (SIBISO)
- Mexico City Secretariat of Health (SEDESA)

Implementing Partners:*

- Colectivo por la Paz en Colombia (Colpaz)
- Colectivo de Apoyo a Migrantes Venezolanos
- Directorate of Integral Protection of Journalists and Human Rights Activists
- Mexico City Secretariat of Security (SSC)
- IOM
- UNHCR
- UN-Habitat

City Networks and Partners:*

- C40 Cities
- ICLEI
- Mayors for Peace
- UCCI
- URBAN20

IMPACT

- 1. Over 720 migrants, refugees and IDPs have improved access to city services and are in a better position to cover their basic needs.
- 2. The Government of Mexico City strengthens its institutional offering to migrants, refugees and IDPs.
- 3. Three government secretariats have new tools to work together and have institutionalized their collaboration to better support migrants, refugees and IDPs.

Basic Services

Financial Stability

Safety & Social Cohesion

Housing

Education & Child Care

Health

Inclusive Governance

















Way Forward

While the Mayors Migration Council and our partners are making progress toward our collective Call to Action, **22 by 2022**, the needs of cities in providing for migrant and displaced communities will remain beyond 2022 and this pandemic.

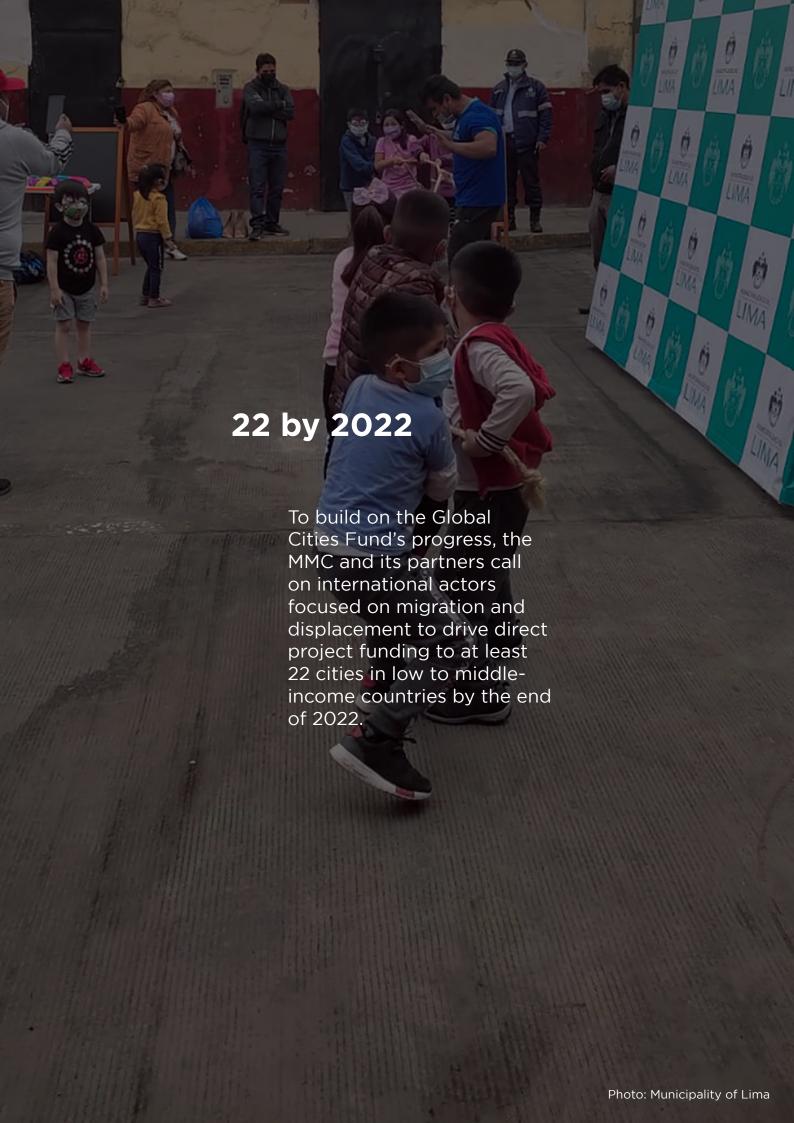
Our ultimate vision for the GCF is to demonstrate that cities can and should have direct access to financial and technical resources and demonstrate the GCF's value as a model that can be scaled and replicated.

The key to realizing this promise is partnership. As Mayor Jamal Itani of Beirut recently stated:8

by the GCF] is just as important as the resources. We are over ten years into the Syrian displacement crisis in Lebanon with hundreds of thousands of refugees residing in Beirut, with dozens of INGOs here to serve them, and too few partnerships to show for it.

Above all else, the GCF is a model for partnership between city governments and international actors focused on migration and displacement. The GCF's first five cities have had tremendous influence on the lives of migrants and displaced people living in their cities while demonstrating the benefit of city-led responses. The GCF's next cohorts of cities are poised to follow suit. But to meet the needs of the millions of migrants and displaced people living in cities around the world, the GCF's "model behavior" must become business as usual globally, so that other cities can benefit, too.

Through their local actions delivered through the GCF, Barranquilla, Beirut, Freetown, Lima, and Mexico City have proven the transformative impact of partnering with cities. We must work with mayors and their city governments as equal partners worthy of international investment and support—not around them—to achieve this at a global scale.





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The MMC would like to thank the mayors and project teams of Barranquilla, Beirut, Freetown, Lima, and Mexico City for trusting us with their projects and for their dedicated service toward migrant and displaced communities.

Partnership

The ultimate vision for the GCF is to demonstrate that cities can—and should—have direct access to financial resources to meet the needs of their migrant and displaced communities, especially during times of hardship.

To turn this vision into reality, the MMC is seeking like-minded partners interested in investing in and working with us to maximize the GCF's impact and extend its resources to as many cities as possible.

To support the GCF or add your city's project to the pipeline, please contact fund@mayorsmigrationcouncil.org.

References

- ¹ UNHCR Global Report 2020. The UN Refugee Agency, accessed June 20, 2021, https://www.unhcr.org/flagship-reports/globaltrends/.
- ² World Health Organization Coronavirus (COVID-19) Dashboard, https://covid19.who.int/. Data as of December 13, 2021.
- ³ To view the Global Cities Fund Project Prospectus, please visit: www.mayorsmigrationcouncil.org/gcf-prospectus.
- ⁴ To learn more about the Paris Peace Forum and its support of the Global Cities Fund as a Scale-up Project, please visit: parispeaceforum.org/en/news/discover-the-10-scale-up-projects-to-be-supported-in-2022.
- ⁵ In addition, the MMC consulted with C40 Cities, Resilient Cities Network, Cities Alliance, and the Global Parliament of Mayors (GPM), among others, to develop an inclusive process for the Fund's inaugural round.
- ⁶ Established in 2019 with funding from the EU and IOM to support eighty waste management micro-enterprises (with eighty tricycles) that have registered 30,000 households for waste collection in one year. Sixty-seven percent of those in the original scheme were rural migrants who are now able to provide income stability for themselves and their families.
- ⁷ Population Census 2020, INEGI.
- ⁸ Public remarks by Mayor Jamal Itani during the MMC's Global Cities Fund event, 22 by 2022: A Global Movement to Support Local Action on Inclusive Pandemic Response, on July 23, 2021. Recording available here: https://www.mayorsmigrationcouncil.org/news/22by2022event.



