



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RfP)

### State of the Field Brief on Cities and Global Migration and Displacement to inform the MMC's 2025-2030 Business Plan

Posted: March 19, 2024

Due: April 8, 2024

#### 1. About the Mayors Migration Council

The [Mayors Migration Council](#) (MMC) is a mayor-led coalition that accelerates ambitious global action on migration and displacement. With most of the world's migrants and displaced people living in cities, our mission is to use the power of city diplomacy and city practice to create a world where urban migrants, displaced people, and receiving communities can thrive.

To achieve our mission, we provide mayors with advocacy, coordination, and communications support to influence policy decisions at the national and international level, and connect city governments to the knowledge, technical, and financial resources they need to accelerate and scale local solutions.

Created by mayors for mayors, we are a nimble team of political advisors and urban practitioners guided by a Leadership Board of global city leaders, including the Mayors of Amman, Dhaka North, Freetown, Kampala, Milan, Montevideo, Montréal, San Antonio, and Zürich. As a Sponsored Project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, our work is made possible by government and philanthropic funders, such as the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the IKEA Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, the Robert Bosch Stiftung, and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

#### 2. Project Summary

The MMC is looking for an experienced expert consultant – or team of consultants – to deliver an internal brief on the “State of the Field of Cities and Global Migration and Displacement” (approximately 10-15 pages) to inform the MMC's 2025-2030 Business Plan. The project's goal is to revise and update an existing background briefing memorandum created in 2019 that evaluated the state of the field at that time and contributed to the MMC's 2020-2024 Business Plan.

Work delivered under this project will directly support the MMC leadership with key data, evidence, and the latest trends/positions in the field of migration and displacement to inform the narrative of the MMC's new Business Plan.

The methodology of the internal brief is to be determined by the consultant(s) in their proposal but should include elements of desktop research, literature review, key informant interviews with experts, and analysis of relevant private data sets that consultant(s) may have through their

individual research. Based on the timeline and methodology proposed by the consultant(s), there may be opportunities to test findings or assumptions through group consultations or focus groups with city leaders or other experts.

The MMC's 2025-2030 Business Plan will be informed by key stakeholders through a discovery process that is already underway and will focus on a set of priorities including advancing city leadership on policy frontiers, expanding the reach of the MMC's core programs, and building capacity to respond to emerging issues. The MMC has already engaged a planning partner to support the development of strategies for the Business Plan and is seeking concurrent targeted research support to build a strong fact base to feed into the Business Plan's rationale and narrative. This planning partner may engage and coordinate with the selected consultant(s) for this research brief.

### 3. Background of the Project

[One in every five](#) international migrants lives in just 20 cities, and [70 percent](#) of the world's displaced people seek refuge in urban areas. As the climate crisis and unresolved conflicts continue to push more people from their homes, this trend is only going to increase. It's at the city level that the most immediate needs of migrants are met, yet mayors have historically been excluded from national and international policy-making that affects outcomes on the ground. In 2018, national governments met to adopt the *United Nations Global Compacts for Migration and Refugees*, but mayors had to self-organize on the sidelines to have their voices heard. Cities across the world also face [systemic barriers](#) to finance and technical resources that limit their ability to deliver solutions at scale.

**The MMC was founded in 2018 by mayors for mayors as a direct response to these challenges – to help mayors get an equal seat at the policy-making table and to unlock resources so they can accelerate and scale local solutions.** Together, these actions will turn the UN Global Compacts from aspiration to reality and make a tangible difference in the lives of urban migrants, displaced people, and receiving communities.

In just five years, the **MMC has turned from a \$2 million initiative into a \$20 million organization.** The seed planted by our ten founding mayors<sup>1</sup> has created a **movement of over 250 mayors and 25 partners** worldwide.

Together, the MMC has secured more direct and equal city access to diplomatic processes than ever before, influenced more than **70 global policy positions** at the international and national level, and unlocked over **\$30 million in international funding** for cities, both by influencing external funds and by creating our own, the [Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees](#). Started as an experiment to quickly deliver funding to cities during the Covid-19 pandemic, the Global Cities Fund is now supporting **28 city governments** improving the lives of thousands of migrants, displaced people, and marginalized communities worldwide across different thematic areas, from health to economic inclusion to climate action to children.

---

<sup>1</sup> The MMC's Founding Leadership Board in 2018 included: Mayor of **Amman** (Jordan), Yousef Al Shawarbeh; Mayor of **Bristol** (UK), Marvin Rees; Mayor of **Freetown** (Sierra Leone), Yvonne Aki-Sawyer; Lord Mayor of **Kampala** (Uganda), Erias Lukwago; Former Mayor of **Los Angeles** (US), Eric Garcetti; Mayor of **Milan** (Italy), Giuseppe Sala; Mayor of **Montréal** (Canada), Valérie Plante; Former Late Mayor of **São Paulo** (Brazil), Bruno Covas; Mayor of **Zürich** (Switzerland), Corine Mauch; and Former -Mayor of **Athens** (Greece), Georgios Kaminis. As of March 2023, the MMC Leadership Board includes the Mayors of Amman, Bristol, Freetown, Kampala, Milan, Montréal, and three new members: Mayor of **Dhaka North** (Bangladesh), Md. Atiqul Islam; Mayor of **Montevideo** (Uruguay), Carolina Cosse; and Mayor of **San Antonio** (US), Ron Nirenberg.

Throughout this work, MMC mayors have positioned themselves as influential players in emerging policy frontiers – from climate migration to inclusive pandemic response. During this first “proof of concept” phase, the MMC has not only demonstrated the viability and impact of its model, but also revealed the scale of the challenges that still persist and the potential benefits of addressing them at scale.

**Now, the MMC is looking ahead to define its strategy and programmatic direction for 2025-2030 through the creation of a new Business Plan.**

For more background on the MMC’s delivery model and impact to date, please refer to the [MMC 2020-2022 Impact Report](#).

#### **4. Project Deliverables**

The MMC is accepting proposals from individuals, consultant teams, companies, and other organizations to produce the following deliverables:

- **Develop an internal-facing research brief (approximately 10-15 pages) on the current state of the field on cities and global migration and displacement issues.** The research brief should provide top line information on key data and trends, map the landscape of actors working in this space, and assess trends and gaps. The brief should be modeled after and provide an update to the MMC’s 2019 background briefing memorandum that includes findings, supporting evidence, and clear citation of verified sources.

The consultant(s) should draw on existing analyses to conduct targeted research and have access to a network and resources to investigate open questions not fully answered in existing bodies of knowledge.

The types of research questions include:

##### **1) Data on urbanization and migration/displacement**

- What are the latest facts and trends on urbanization? Which types of cities/regions are most impacted? How has the trend evolved over the past five years?
- What are the latest facts and trends on urban migration and displacement? Are different types of cities/regions impacted differently? How has the trend evolved over the past five years?
- What does the literature say about key opportunities and challenges faced by urban migrants and displaced people in cities, and their contributions to local communities?
- Based on this information, what high-need, high-impact thematic policy areas could the MMC prioritize over the next five years and why?

##### **2) Landscape of actors on cities and global migration/displacement**

- How has the landscape of actors addressing urban migration and displacement evolved over the last five years?
- Are more cities engaged in migration and displacement issues?
- Are more national governments supportive of city engagement?
- Are more city networks addressing migration and displacement and how?

- Are more funders supporting city network or city-led activities on migration and displacement?

### **3) Trends on city diplomacy on global migration/displacement**

- How has city diplomacy evolved since the creation of the MMC, including cities' ability to influence global and national policies?
- What facts showcase the growing strength of city networks focused on migration and displacement?
- Where has city participation in regional, national, and global fora on the issue of migration influenced policy?
- Are global, inter-regional, regional or national city networks focused on migration and displacement more prevalent than they were five years ago?
- Are there gaps and opportunities to advance city diplomacy through new networked approaches on migration and displacement (e.g., geographic and topical networks etc.)?
- Are there tactics of city diplomacy that have proven particularly impactful over the last five years?

### **4) Trends on city practice on global migration/displacement**

- Are local governments more empowered to act on migration and refugee issues than they were five years ago?
- What are the best examples of local impact?
- Are there particular themes emerging as areas of action (e.g., pathways, housing, economic inclusion, etc.)?
- What are the capacity building needs of cities today? What types of support are most impactful?
- Are there tactics for advancing city action that have proven particularly impactful over the last five years?

### **5) Trends on municipal finance on global migration/displacement**

- How has the landscape of municipal finance for migrants and refugees evolved over the last five years?
- What are the most effective mechanisms and sources for local funding (e.g., public investments, global development banks, philanthropic funds, social impact investment, emergency funding, etc.)?
- Where are the opportunities for greater investment and innovation?
- What are potential gaps that the MMC's programs are well positioned to fill?

### **6) Gaps in the field of cities and global migration/displacement**

- What high-need, high-impact thematic areas at the nexus of migration/displacement are currently overlooked or not adequately addressed (e.g., climate, economy, housing, children, reception, etc.) where the MMC could have a unique value add?

- What other gaps in the field of cities and global migration/displacement are identified where the MMC could have a unique value add?

## 5. Project Timeline

The project is tentatively set to take place over a ten-week period **beginning April 22, 2024 through June 30, 2024**. An indicative timeline of key tasks and deliverables is outlined in the table below. The consultant is expected to provide their own suggested timeline with interim steps in line with their proposed methodology.

Date	Milestone
April 22	Kick off session to discuss research question and deliverable scope
Week of April 22	Complete onboarding of consultant and finalization of work plan
April 22 – May 10	Data collection, research, stakeholder consultations, and drafting
Week of May 13	Initial presentation of findings and outline of Brief
May 27	Draft Brief Due
June 14	Final Brief due
Weeks of June 17 and 24	Buffer for additional feedback/iteration following the MMC’s governance meeting
June 30	Project close

The consultant will be expected to join regularly scheduled check-ins with the MMC. The consultant will report to the MMC’s Executive Director and liaise with other MMC staff to ensure quality and consistency with MMC publications and strategies.

## 6. Project Budget

The MMC will consider the most cost effective proposals. Costs should be listed for each of the following items in accordance with the template below:

Task	Total Cost \$ (Per Task)	Days (Per Task)

Consultant	Role	Day rate \$	Total No. days

Budget and contracting regulations:

- All taxes should be stated and included in submitted quotes.

- Costs should be presented in USD.
- Please note that the contracting entity is Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc.

## 7. Proposal Guidelines & Requirements

This Request for Proposal represents the requirements for an open and competitive process. Proposals should be submitted to [gformel@mayorsmigrationcouncil.org](mailto:gformel@mayorsmigrationcouncil.org) (cc: [contact@mayorsmigrationcouncil.org](mailto:contact@mayorsmigrationcouncil.org)) **no later than 5:00PM EST April 8, 2024.**

Proposals should not exceed three pages (excluding CV's and reference projects) and should clearly outline:

- Project management methodology, workplan, and budget.
- Description of expertise in undertaking similar assignments with success, as well as demonstrating skills and understanding of the subject matter (i.e., municipal access to finance, urban migration and displacement, international humanitarian/development agencies, etc.).
- CV/Qualifications of the individual or team who would be working on the contract.
- References from other similar clients.

Activity	Date
Request for Proposals sent out	March 19
Due date for proposal to the MMC	April 8 (no later than 5:00 PM ET)
Evaluation of written response and interviews	April 9 - 12
Selection decision made	April 15
Contracting period	April 16 - 19
Project Starts	April 22