

STRONGER DATA, BRIGHTER FUTURES

PROTECTING CHILDREN ON THE MOVE WITH DATA AND EVIDENCE

A continued call to action

ROBUST DATA AND EVIDENCE are an essential component of policies and programmes that support a positive migration experience for all. But serious data gaps persist, obscuring the stories of some of the world's most vulnerable migrants: children. This brief, produced by the International Data Alliance for Children on the Move (IDAC) to coincide with the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), renews the call for Member States and stakeholders to act. It reiterates the key steps needed to improve data and better meet the urgent needs of the millions of children around the world who have left home.

AN URGENT APPEAL for Millions of Children Around the World

Around the globe, children are crossing borders in record numbers. In 2020, some 35.5 million were living outside their country of birth. This is the highest number ever recorded – and does not capture the large numbers of children on the move impacted by recent events, such as the crises in Afghanistan and Ukraine. Around a third of these 35.5 million children are refugees and asylum seekers.

While the urgency of conflict and crisis drives many families from home – often quite suddenly – there are many other reasons children are on the move today: Children cross borders to escape poverty, violence and exploitation, discrimination, and other violations of their rights. They move to pursue their right to learn and work and opportunities for personal growth and development. Many face this life-changing event alone, and too many children on the move will spend their formative years living with great uncertainty and insecurity.

THE RIGHT TO THRIVE

Migration acts as an important lifeline for millions of children whether they move in response to shocks – economic, environmental or geopolitical, for instance – or by circumstances that slowly deteriorate due to factors like climate change or failing state institutions. In many scenarios, children comprise a disproportionate number of those who are on the move, particularly among those forced to flee their country of origin: While around 1 in 10 international migrants without a refugee background is a child, almost half of those who are refugees are under the age of 18, as seen in the high numbers of Ukrainian children crossing borders in March 2022.^{1,2}

Children on the move describes girls and boys who have left home for any reason, including conflict, violence, disasters, lack of opportunities or other threats to their well-being. They may be in transit or have found new residency within their country or outside of it. They may be alone or with a caregiver or parent. The term includes all child migrants.

The story of every child on the move is unique and personal – so, too, are the deprivations and rights violations they will encounter throughout their journeys and in host communities. Their immediate and long-term protection needs will vary greatly by the circumstances and specifics of their movement. Policymakers must be attuned to these differences to design effective interventions and strategically position resources – and collecting the data that reflect these details and can inform targeted actions is the necessary first step.

Timely, reliable and accurate data are the vital backbone to evidence-based policies and programmes that not only protect children on the move, but also uphold the rights of all migrants.

A DANGEROUS CHILDHOOD

Children on the move commonly experience threats to their safety, security and well-being throughout their journeys and in host communities. Many will encounter situations unfit for a child.

- 8 IN 10** Venezuelan children interviewed in Colombia lived or stayed on the street “always” or “sometimes”
- 1 IN 3** children on the move in the Horn of Africa were unable to attend school
- 8 IN 10** adolescents who had journeyed to Europe along the Central Mediterranean route reported being victims of exploitation

Source: R4V, RMRP 2022: Regional refugee and migrant response plan; UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti, ‘Access to Basic Services’; UNICEF and IOM, *Harrowing Journeys*.

1. International Data Alliance for Children on the Move, [Missing from the Story: The urgent need for better data to protect children on the move](#), IDAC Data InSIGHT, no. 1, IDAC, 2021; “International migrants” refers to the “migrant stock”, usually defined as the resident foreign-born population in a country.

2. United Nations, ‘Ukraine War Creating a Child Refugee Almost Every Second: UNICEF’, News note, 15 March 2022.



THE GCM AND DATA: TIME TO RENEW OUR FOCUS

The Global Compact for Migration (GCM) recognized the paramount importance of data and evidence in protecting migrants – including children on the move – in [Objective 1](#), “Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies”.³ These data underpin child protection efforts in all stages of the migration journey, and act as a key building block of effective migration governance and sustainable development.

But the real scale of migration around the globe – and especially that of the most vulnerable populations, like children – remains unknown. Numbers are often derived from estimation with many assumptions. The limited data are further hindered by large gaps that obscure the most basic information about children on the move.

There is an unprecedented number of children on the move in Latin America and the Caribbean, for instance – children that commonly face extreme challenges to their safety and security.⁴ But to date, many are missing from the data – and the data that are available do not tell us how old they are, their sex, their precise location, their condition and needs, and other critical details to ensure they receive the appropriate support and assistance.

A child who is missing from the data is more likely to see her or his rights violated. When children are not counted, their well-being cannot be protected. They will miss out on vital protection schemes and programmes designed to support them.

IDAC: CENTERING CHILDREN IN MIGRATION DATA

In 2018, five key agencies – Eurostat, IOM, OECD, UNHCR and UNICEF – put forth a [Call to Action](#) to address the poor availability and quality of data on children on the move through five strategic action points. These agencies took an important step forward for these children with the establishment of the [International Data Alliance for Children on the Move](#) (IDAC) in 2020. IDAC is a cross-sectoral, global coalition working to improve statistics and data on migrant and displaced children, ensuring these children are not left out of the promise of the GCM and the 2030 Agenda.

In the same spirit as the GCM, IDAC emphasizes a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, providing an open platform for Member States, international and regional organizations, NGOs, think tanks, academia and civil society to close the knowledge gaps on children on the move. Its efforts are informed by the Call to Action’s five strategic action points.

IDAC: 3 KEY OBJECTIVES



STRENGTHEN national data systems and capacities to protect migrant and forcibly-displaced children



PROMOTE and establish collaborative, innovative methods for child-specific data work



IMPROVE data visibility, availability, accessibility and usability

Four IDAC working groups are translating these objectives into concrete outputs for children on the move. They are **identifying challenges related to child-specific migration and displacement data** and **generating practical solutions** in the form of public goods (e.g., publications, guidance materials, capacity-building, strategic partnerships).

IDAC’s work shows what can be achieved when we leverage expertise and know-how at local, national, regional and international levels to improve migration data for children.

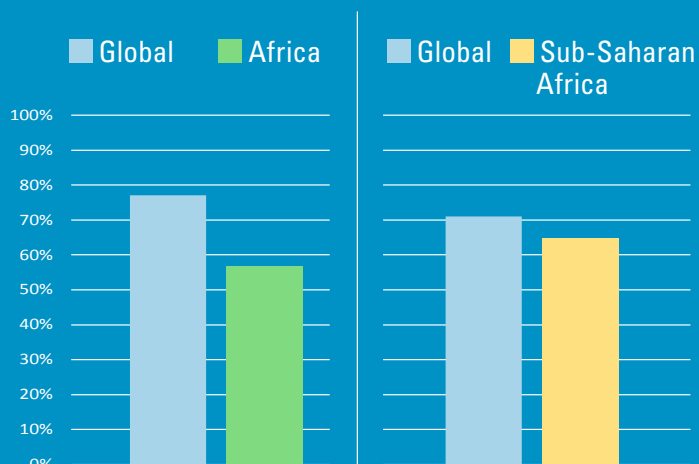
3. See United Nations, [Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, Draft outcome document of the Conference](#), President of the General Assembly, A/CONF.231/3, United Nations, New York, 30 July 2018, paragraph 17.

4. United Nations Children’s Fund, [‘Latin America and the Caribbean: About 3.5 million children to be affected by migration next year – UNICEF’](#), Press release, UNICEF, 3 December 2021. .



DATA ON MIGRANT STOCK BY AGE REMAIN SCARCE

2017 VS. 2020



77% of countries and territories had age-disaggregated migrant stock data, including only **57%** in Africa

71% of countries and territories had age-disaggregated migrant stock data, including only **65%** in sub-Saharan Africa

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, [International Migrant Stock](#) (2017, 2020).

Note: Measured as share of countries or areas that had at least one data source on the age of international migrants since the 2010 census round at time of publication.

To date, data-related conversations in the framework of the GCM have largely focused on remittances and migrants' contributions to host and home communities and incidents of exploitation, such as human trafficking. But children on the move, and the specifics of their data needs, have been notably missing from the discussion. Data-related initiatives in pursuit of the GCM have not done enough to incorporate an evidence-based child-sensitive lens, which is one of the GCM's guiding principles. It is time for this to change.

As we gather at this important juncture for the GCM and renew our commitment to protecting the rights of all migrants, we must shine a light on the millions of children among them who have yet to be heard. We must redouble efforts to identify and address the persistent data gaps that leave these children in the shadows.

To realize the GCM's guiding principles and achieve Objective 1, and to ensure no one is left out of the 2030 Agenda, we must commit to improving the data and evidence on children on the move.

By doing so, we are making vital investments in a brighter future for millions of children.

THE PATH TO BETTER DATA:

Strategic action points, initiatives to inspire action

Since the GCM was adopted, important work aligned with the 2018 Call to Action has taken place at country, regional and international level to improve data for children on the move. But much more needs to be done to ensure that migration data takes these children into account. The past four years – including the work achieved by many IDAC members – have made clear that partnerships, collaboration and investment in data work are all needed to achieve real and timely progress.

The five action points in the Call to Action provide an important road map for Member States and other stakeholders to improve the data landscape and protect children on the move. Many challenges remain, as summarized over the following pages. But existing and emerging activities demonstrate how strategic investments can ensure children on the move are counted in data collection efforts and policymakers can be held accountable for their well-being. The initiatives highlighted in this brief offer Member States valuable resources and engaging opportunities to enhance the national data landscape on migration.

For a more detailed analysis of both the gaps in migration data on children and the initiatives taking place around the world to address them, see the recent IDAC publication, [Missing from the Story: The urgent need for better data to protect children on the move](#).



DISAGGREGATE DATA BY AGE, SEX AND MIGRATORY STATUS⁵

- Disaggregating data on migrants by age and sex (including for data on regular and irregular migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and unaccompanied minors) is crucial to the proper identification and monitoring of children on the move. Multiple, consistent age classifications that allow data on children to be classified into different groups must be made available to enable policymakers to analyse the evolving aspects of children's well-being.
- Data must be disaggregated by migratory status (usually based on country of birth or citizenship, but other criteria can be used additionally, such as displacement status) to ensure children on the move are not left out of efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda (see box on p. 6 for further details). These data foster understanding of living conditions and of important indicators of well-being, such as access to education, health and other vital services. To date, disaggregation by migratory status remains low.
- Standardization of the definitions and methodologies needed to foster disaggregation is a considerable challenge given Member States' differing statistical and administrative set ups. Standardization is necessary for data integration, comparability, sharing and analysis at regional, continental and global levels. The [revised conceptual framework and accompanying definitions for statistics on international migration and mobility](#) – endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission in 2021 – provides a benchmark for standardizing statistical definitions and methodologies. Member States' implementation of the framework will strengthen the production of reliable statistics on international migration and ensure that data systems are developed using comparable frameworks and mechanisms for data collection and sharing.

5. "Migratory status" has been added to this action point per recommendation of the [Expert Group on Migration Statistics](#).



MIGRATORY STATUS: THE VALUE OF VARIABLES

For policymakers to better support children on the move, they first need to be able to identify them in statistics – most importantly through disaggregation. Collecting data on migratory status is key to these efforts, which should aim to capture both country of birth and country of citizenship to more accurately indicate whether a person is a migrant, in addition to age and sex.

Disaggregation by migratory status is important. Not considering migrants, including those who are children, in national and local policymaking may limit its effectiveness. For example, in countries or cities with a large population of children on the move – in some contexts, they may outnumber native children – it will be near impossible to meet education-related targets, as the needs of migrant children may differ significantly from their native peers.

If possible, information on the following variables may also be considered:

- **Country of birth of parents** (in addition to the individual's country of birth) offers insight into varying characteristics between first- and second-generation migrants and helps policymakers better assess the range of needs across populations at different stages of migration and integration processes.
- **Year/period of arrival or duration of migration** can help differentiate those who have recently migrated from those who arrived many years ago. Newly arrived migrants, in particular children and young people, may need assistance navigating new languages, schools, health care systems and more. This type of information also helps policymakers analyse migrant characteristics and outcomes over time.
- **Reason for migration (of the individual and/or parents) or admission into a country** helps identify different migrant subgroups. Key categories may include work, study, family reunification and asylum – each of which will come with its own set of needs and social protection requirements, especially for vulnerable groups like children.

For more information on disaggregation and sample questions, see IOM's [Leave No Migrant Behind: The 2030 Agenda and data disaggregation](#).⁶



INITIATIVES FOR BETTER DATA

- [Eurostat](#) now regularly collects statistics on children applying for asylum, children subject to asylum decisions, and children subject to returns. These statistics are disaggregated by citizenship, age, sex, and, importantly, unaccompanied minors
- The UN Statistics Division developed a [technical report](#) to help national statistical offices and other statistical entities monitor migration-related SDG indicators
- To improve international migration statistics collected through national censuses and sample surveys, the UN Statistics Division prepared a [guidance note](#) on a set of suggested questions on international migration with feedback from the Expert Group on Migration Statistics
- UNICEF and UNHCR developed the [IDEAS tool](#) to guide Member States through the process of mapping their national data ecosystem and forge standardization across data collection mechanisms
- IOM's [Leave No Migrant Behind: The 2030 Agenda and data disaggregation](#) offers guidance to practitioners on disaggregation of SDG-related data by migratory status
- The Expert Group on Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics (EGRIS) developed two statistical frameworks ([IRRS](#), [IRIS](#)) – with a third under development ([IROSS](#)) – that apply disaggregation to overcome statistical challenges on those who have been forcibly displaced or are stateless. The EGRIS model offers a road map and lessons learned for improving data on migrant children
- UNHCR's annual reporting includes disaggregated data on displaced children (see [Global Trends 2020](#))



OPPORTUNITIES FOR POLICY AND PRACTICAL ACTION

- **Engage** in the work of expert groups (e.g., on Migration Statistics, on Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics) and contribute to the implementation of agreed standards
- **Work** collaboratively to build national-level capacities and develop child-specific indicators (for more information, see IDAC Working Group 2 activities)
- **Conduct** an assessment of the national data ecosystem to connect the dots from concerned line ministries to the national statistical authority, such as the IDEAS tool (for more information, see IDAC Working Group 1 activities)

6. Mosler Vidal, Elisa, [Leave No Migrant Behind: The 2030 Agenda and data disaggregation](#), International Organization for Migration, Geneva, 2021.

COVER KEY ISSUES RELATING TO CHILDREN ON THE MOVE

- To ensure the well-being of children on the move is being factored into national programmes, data must capture the extent to which children are able to access essential services. These include education, health, nutrition, water and sanitation, and child protection. Data must count and track unaccompanied and separated children and family reunification. They must also reflect the impact of migrating parents on children who remain at home. A child's agency – to pursue aspirations, to be able to protect themselves – is also an important aspect of well-being. More investments are needed in qualitative and longitudinal data that demonstrate the extent to which children can exercise this right.



INITIATIVES FOR BETTER DATA

- IOM and UNICEF continue to strengthen their long-standing partnership to best support the changing needs of children on the move. Among other initiatives, they are working on innovative and data-led solutions to improve child-sensitive migration management, access to services (e.g., health), humanitarian response, and a number of emerging areas, such as climate and migration
- A [2021 OECD policy brief](#) provided important evidence on how the pandemic has affected immigrants and their children in terms of health, jobs, education, language training and other integration measures, and public opinion. It also described host countries' policy responses
- Global-level migration-related processes are increasingly highlighting the need for better data and evidence to address children's issues. For example:
 - » The IDMC [Global Report on Internal Displacement \(GRID\)](#) 2022, set for release in late May 2022, focuses on children and youth in internal displacement
 - » A 2021 IDAC webinar highlighted how girls and boys may experience COVID-related risks and challenges differently, informed by an [IDAC issue brief](#)
- In 2007, Spain's National Statistical Office ran its first [National Immigrant Survey](#) with a particular focus on family reunification. In coordination with the Migration Ministry, the questionnaire was designed to employ a family-oriented approach. It provides important guidance to other Member States in navigating the often complex impacts of migration on families, particularly on children left behind
- In 2020, UNHCR and UNICEF launched the [Blueprint for Joint Action](#), a commitment to accelerate joint efforts in line with the Global Compact on Refugees. It helps host countries incorporate refugee children in national development plans and budgets and strengthens national service delivery systems, focusing on access for refugee and host community children to education, child protection services, clean water, and hygiene facilities



OPPORTUNITIES FOR POLICY AND PRACTICAL ACTION

- **Investigate** data needs to better understand child-specific issues and develop relevant strategies by joining webinars and other events:
 - » For instance, IDAC regularly organizes webinars and dialogues that address urgent issues shaping the lives of children on the move and the important role of data
- **Attend** migration-related global events that leverage a broad platform to reach Member States and other concerned stakeholders, and engage in child-specific data dialogue, investment and partnership
 - » Examples include the [International Forum on Migration Statistics \(IFMS\)](#), the [annual High-Level Political Forum \(HLPF\)](#), the [UN Statistical Commission \(UNSC\)](#) and the [World Data Forum \(WDF\)](#)

MAKE BETTER USE OF EXISTING DATA, AND SHARE IT

- Significant data collection efforts are taking place at country, regional and international level, but Member States' capacities to collect, analyse and share these data vary. This is due to different factors, including, for example, availability of resources, technical know-how and government priorities. Data concerning children on the move are often derived from different sources – through censuses and population surveys, administrative data, new technology-based initiatives and citizen-generated data. Combining and integrating these data is a valuable resource in the production of migration statistics.
- New norms and practices are needed for data sharing between countries, across regions and across sectors and agencies. Systematic data-sharing between stakeholders within or outside of government agencies and analysis of collated data allow these data to effectively inform policies and programmes. Leveraging the data generated by governments and humanitarian actors working in migration and displacement contexts at the country and regional level will foster a much-needed bottom-up approach.
- Governments, humanitarian actors and development agencies often collect data using their own methodologies and systems. Synchronized approaches are needed to avoid overlap, confusion and duplication of efforts and resources and to share the collected information among joint stakeholders. This includes integration of innovative data sources – such as big data, social media and mobile phone data – which have great potential to capture further details about migration experiences. When discussing these types of data, it is important to consider that children often lack access to these tools, and therefore may not be well represented in the evidence.



INITIATIVES FOR BETTER DATA

- A task force of experts from national statistical offices collaborated with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe to develop [guidance](#) on data integration for measuring migration
- IDAC is mapping available data sources related to children on the move from a number of key global-level stakeholders. This exercise is a building block to a more integrated and connected data ecosystem for these children
- An IDAC working group is identifying common indicators for child-specific data to develop and promote same standards for all Member States



OPPORTUNITIES FOR POLICY AND PRACTICAL ACTION

- **Join** networks of data enthusiasts (including the private sector, NGOs and academics) to fill the data gaps
- **Conduct** mapping exercises of existing and emerging sources of data and indicators to protect and empower migrant children
- **Support** efforts to build a comprehensive database and information hub on data on children on the move, where the disparate databases hosted by IDAC Secretariat members and relevant partners are merged



COORDINATE DATA EFFORTS WITHIN COUNTRIES AND ACROSS BORDERS

- Statistical offices play a host of crucial roles in upholding the rights of children on the move through improved data: They can identify gaps, coordinate data collection and cross-verification, and promote consistency between data collected or managed by different government bodies involving migrant children. Concerned government authorities need to establish their own statistical units where not already in place, and prioritize data on children on the move.
- Collecting data on children on the move must be considered a priority and an integral part of broader efforts to achieve sustainable development. Donors (countries, foundations, etc.) must invest more in data initiatives, by drawing good practices and lessons learned from pioneering regional mechanisms like the African Union, Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and European Union.

- Across borders, governments, regional bodies, the United Nations and international organizations, collaboration should be strengthened.



INITIATIVES FOR BETTER DATA

- **IOM created the [Global Data Institute](#)**, which brings together the IOM Global Migration Data Analysis Center (GMDAC) and Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). Both GMDAC and DTM provide vital support to IDAC's technical work. IOM is also developing regional data hubs and engaging with regional mechanisms like the African Union to strengthen data capacities and promote sharing of experiences
- UNICEF leads child protection efforts at country, regional and global level to mitigate the impacts of migration
- Eurostat is improving the dissemination of statistics in light of recent EU policy initiatives to provide more details on the integration and inclusion of migrant children. Pilot studies for further disaggregation of statistics on unaccompanied minors (e.g., access to education) are foreseen by 2024
- **[UNHCR's data transformation strategy](#)** presents a vision, strategic priorities and key actions that will be undertaken to enhance strategic and responsible use of timely, quality data and information. It hinges on collaboration, collective efforts and joint engagement with partners and stakeholders



OPPORTUNITIES FOR POLICY AND PRACTICAL ACTION

- **Strengthen** traditional data sources (e.g., censuses, household surveys) and identify and leverage innovative data sources (administrative data, frontier data, big data and citizen-generated data) to bolster the evidence base on migrant children (see IDAC working group activities)
- **Build** synergies with regional mechanisms by expanding expert networks, sharing experiences and promoting good practices
- **Establish** policies that foster migrant-sensitive data collection (such as safeguards to protect sensitive data and usage of anonymized data) while protecting migrants from harmful actions from the host government/community, by, for example, establishing firewalls between immigration authorities and government entities collecting data

MAKE SPECIAL EFFORTS TO COLLECT AND ANALYSE DATA ON CHILDREN

- Despite increasing global awareness of the importance of better data for evidence-based policies and programmes, very little attention has been paid to data on children on the move. National strategies for the development of statistics must channel the necessary financial resources to child migration-related statistical programmes and activities in the national statistical system.
- Governments need to explore innovative approaches to strengthening national data systems to ensure that migrant children are seen and counted. Partnerships with international organizations, the private sector, NGOs and academics are needed to close the data gaps created by traditional data approaches.
- Given the delicate nature of children's data, however, sufficient care must be observed at all stages of data collection, analysis and sharing, especially when these activities involve the participation of children on the move themselves. Data collection efforts must comply with child protection standards and abide by the principle to "do no harm".



INITIATIVES FOR BETTER DATA

- The [EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child and the European Child Guarantee](#) better protect all children, help them fulfil their rights and place them at the centre of EU policymaking. The [European Child Guarantee](#) ensures access to quality key services for children in need, including migrant background children. The [European social scoreboard of indicators](#) has been updated to include children among its indicators
- The [ASEAN Declaration on the Rights of Children in the Context of Migration](#) protects migrant children by increasing child- and gender-sensitive cooperation on border governance policies and developing cross-border agreements and standard operating procedures. It calls for increased data collection that includes the perspectives of children on the move
- IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), humanitarian needs assistance programmes (HNAP), IMPACT-REACH, and the Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS) provide granular data, timely information and in-depth analysis from crisis, disaster and displacement contexts. This work directly feeds into aid response and decision-making by providing accessible and precise information on the humanitarian situation of crisis-affected populations
- The Mixed Migration Centre North Africa office and Save The Children International's North Africa Migration Initiative partnered for [a research project on migrant children and youth in Tunisia](#), relying on multiple data sources to reflect the voices of children, youth, caregivers and service providers



OPPORTUNITIES FOR POLICY AND PRACTICAL ACTION

- **Ensure** organizations comply with data protection laws and privacy laws and raise standards for confidentiality in national data systems
- **Work** together to develop innovative methods on child-specific data work, including the use of frontier data, big data and crowdsourced data collection efforts (for more information, see IDAC Working Group activities)
- **Join** webinars or online learning programmes (e.g., see AU-STATAFRIC and Statistics Sweden (SCB) initiatives) to sensitize data producers and users about child data protection standards
- **Contribute** to dialogues and partnerships for the inclusion of internally displaced children into data collection efforts

PRIORITIZING CHILDREN

on the move today for a brighter tomorrow

Recent humanitarian crises remind us that much more needs to be done to live up to the promises of the GCM, uphold the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and achieve the 2030 Agenda to guarantee the protection of all children on the move through better data. Member States must actively engage in the strategic action points described in this renewed call to action – they provide a road map to ensure that sustainable progress will be made to improve the data and evidence on children on the move.

Concerted efforts are needed to share experiences, good practices and lessons learned in order to improve migration data and promote solutions that are grounded in the day-to-day realities of data producers and data users. Top-down (UN- and international organization-led) and bottom-up approaches led by national authorities and non-state partners are equally vital to protecting children on the move through enhanced data. There are many ways to engage in this work – IDAC offers a unique opportunity to be a part of a whole-of-society approach that helps make the vision of a safe migration for all a reality. More details on IDAC work can be found [here](#).

A CONCERTED PLEDGE

An important next step is that the Progress Declaration expected to be adopted at the end of the IMRF recognizes the slow and limited progress made in implementing GCM objective 1 in terms of child migration data. The Declaration must send a clear signal to governments and other crucial partners that real progress on the data front can only be achieved if Member States consider the data needs of children on the move as a priority, matched by political, technical and financial investments.

Over the next four years, let's pledge to fill the gaps, learning from, building upon and expanding on the progress that has been achieved. This must happen at all governance levels, and we must hold ourselves accountable to new standards in the migration data landscape. For instance, by the 2026 IMRF, Member States can pledge to voluntarily report on their progress toward implementing the data-related objectives of the GCM, vis-à-vis established standards and indicators on child migration data.

A cooperative approach hinging on shared responsibility between governments and key stakeholders in humanitarian and development communities is vital to improving the data on children on the move and ensuring that every child is counted, seen, heard and protected, no matter how far away from home they may be.



“Behind every number
is a child’s story.”

Muzoon Almellehan, *UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador*.

As an adolescent, Muzoon was forced to flee Syria.

She is now an education activist
working to help keep Syrian girls in school.

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