



INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK STATEMENT
GLOBAL REFUGEE FORUM
GENEVA DECEMBER 17-18, 2019

Recognizing that large and sudden intraregional flows of refugees and migrants have become an emerging inclusive development challenge in Latin America and the Caribbean, that if not addressed properly and urgently, can have detrimental mid- and long-term effects on growth, poverty reduction and social inclusion;

Acknowledging other institutions have comparative advantages and express mandates to address immediate humanitarian needs of refugees and migrants;

Consistent with its foundational charter and the overarching objectives of reducing poverty and inequality and achieving sustainable growth in its 26 borrowing member countries;

And in line with the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees to ease the pressures on host countries and enhance self-reliance of refugees;

The Inter-American Development Bank, as the largest source of development finance in Latin America and the Caribbean, pledges financial and technical assistance to support countries' efforts to include the forcibly displaced, by financing multisector investments to expand access to identification; basic and social services and economic opportunities for refugees, migrants and their host communities at the national, subnational and local levels.

In 2019, the Board of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank approved the use of US\$100 million of non-reimbursable resources from its Grant Facility to support countries that have received large and sudden inflows of refugees and/or migrants. Eligible countries as of December 2019 include Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guyana, Panama, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago.



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The Inter-American Development Bank's own resources will be blended with additional grants and co-financing from public and private donors, expecting to leverage a total of US\$1 billion in a period of 4 years.

In addition, the Inter-American Development Bank will use its financial and non-financial instruments to contribute empirical policy research and data collection to inform evidence-based policies and investments; to enhance the capacity of relevant agencies and institutions at the national and subnational levels to manage refugee and migrant flows; and to foster dialogue and regional cooperation for the development of collective solutions among host countries to ensure policy coordination in the short, medium and long term.

On the occasion of this First Global Refugee Forum, the Inter-American Development Bank reaffirms its commitment to advocating and mobilizing resources to provide incentives for the development of targeted and effective responses that cater to host communities and refugees and migrants in its borrowing member countries, and to continue supporting the achievement of the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees.