

# “Champion Local Authorities within the framework of the Global Compact for Migration in South America”



January 2024

The Champion Local Authorities Initiative (CLA) of the IOM Regional Office for South America region took place between October and December 2023 and aimed to make visible and strengthen the capacities of local authorities (LAs) in South America, supporting their **positioning in the region as Champion Local Authorities in improving migration governance at the local level through the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)**.

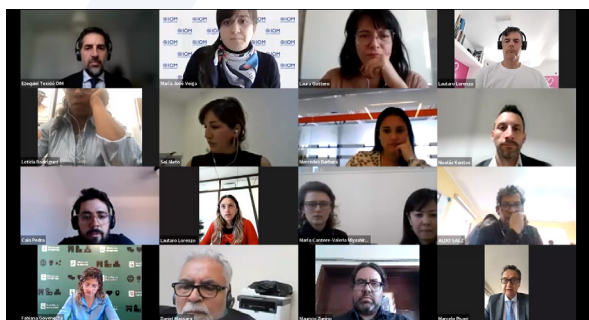
The initiative was carried out within the framework of the MIRAC regional project “**Strengthening the involvement of stakeholders in the implementation of the GCM**”, implemented by the Policy and Liaison Unit of the Buenos Aires Regional Office.

Through coordinated work with the Country Offices, a regional mapping of local authorities was carried out. Authorities were previously identified for their work and commitment to migration governance. The following criteria were used for the selection: the implementation of local MGI, the systematization of good practices in the Repository of Practices of the Migration Network Hub, their participation in MERCOCIUDADES as a strategic partner of the initiative, the pledges made by local authorities within the framework of the GCM and their participation in the Mayors Mechanism.

Initially, 40 local authorities from 10 South American countries were invited to participate in the activities proposed in the initiative, with the support of their respective IOM country offices.

## The initiative was developed in four stages:

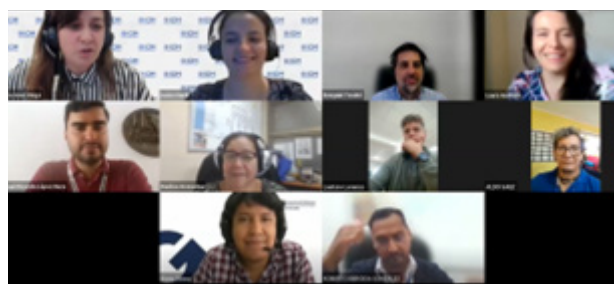
### 1. Launching Event:



Of the total local authorities convened, 38 participated in the launch of the initiative on October 18, 2023, **representing 26 local governments from 9 countries in South America**. It was attended and welcomed by IOM’s Regional Director for South America, as well as representatives of MERCOCIUDADES as a strategic partner of the initiative. The meeting took place in the format of a forum, in which an exchange session between peers was held about challenges, progress and reflections from the local level.

### 2. Exchange and Capacity Building workshop for Local Authorities:

24 local authorities participated in the two sessions of the virtual workshop, representing **16 local governments from 6 countries in the region**. Tools and resources were socialized to strengthen capacities at the local level with a focus on rights and a gender perspective.



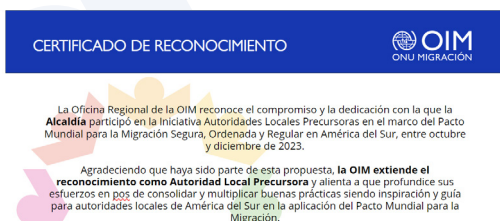


As guidance material, a handbook was developed: Public Policies at the local level with the Global Compact approach, which serves both to introduce the subject and to provide examples of good practices in the region regarding the local implementation of the GCM.

The workshop provided a unique platform of debate and exchange of knowledge among peers from an exclusively local approach and to advance the effective achievement of the objectives and guiding principles of the GCM.

Within the framework of the Workshop, a **management mapping was developed**, which constituted an exercise to reflect on the actions of the LAs that are linked to the GCM and that can be strengthened through an active inclusion of its objectives and guiding principles.

Also during the workshop, a series of relevant challenges and concerns were shared which helped to discuss the implementation of the GCM at the regional level but from the local perspective, as well as actions that local governments have been implementing from the local management. These challenges, concerns and actions were systematized in the **Integrated Local Migration Agenda**.



### 3. Certifications:

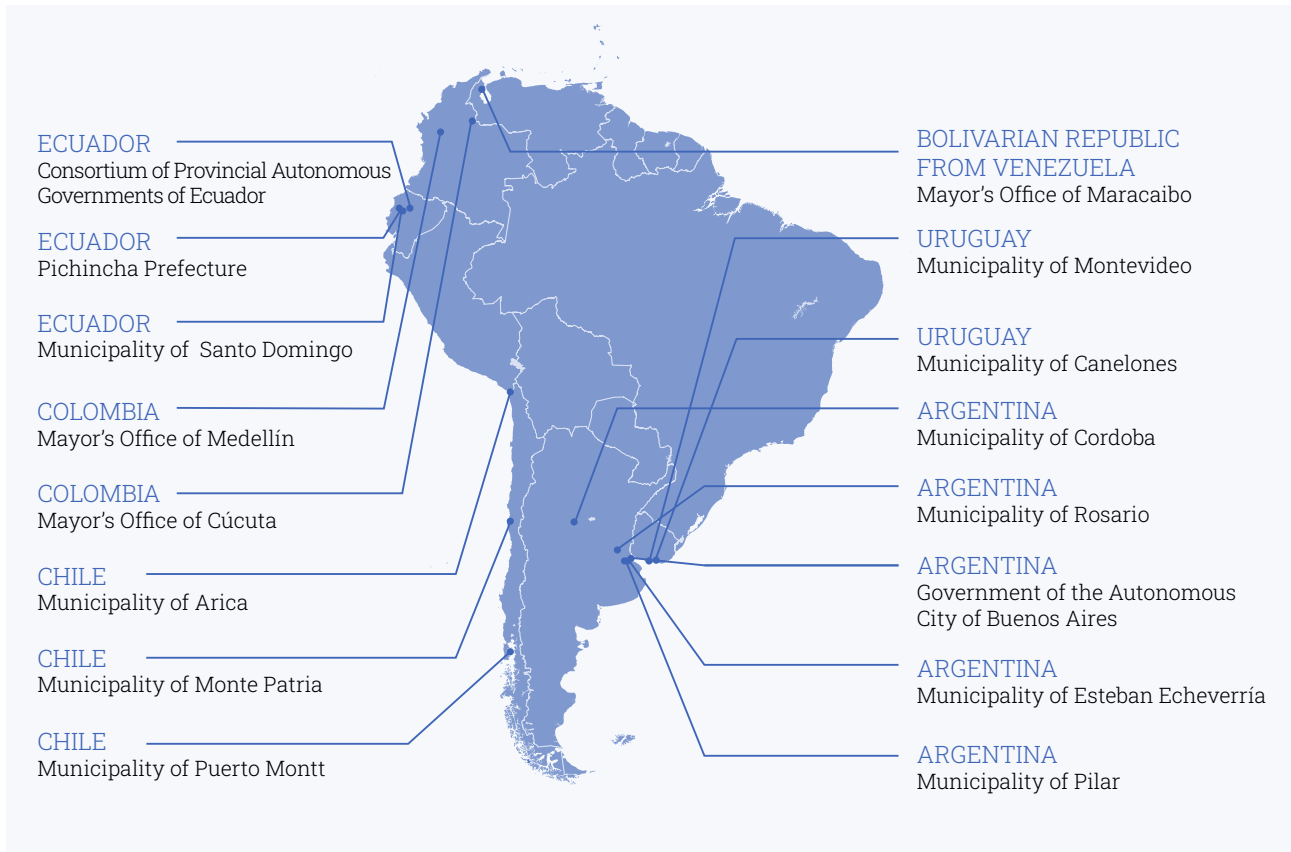
The local authorities that participated in these activities, demonstrating their commitment and the interest of local governments in advancing the implementation of the GCM received a recognition **from the IOM Regional Office as a Champion Local Authority in the implementation of the GCM**. Recognition has been given to the people who have participated in both stages, as well as to the local governments represented by them.

### 4. Dissemination of tools:

Once the **Management mapping** and the **Integrated Local Migration Agenda** had been systematized and analyzed, the material was disseminated among the Champion local authorities and relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the GCM at the local level in South America.

Below, the list of local governments that have been recognized and make up the first group of Champion Local Authorities of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in South America.

## Champion Local Authorities in South América.



Source: Self made.

Note: This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.