



2024 IMPACT REPORT





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Mayors Migration Council

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“We have the opportunity—and the responsibility—to shape global migration policy, fostering inclusion, economic opportunity, and stability for both migrants and local communities.”

Carlos Galán, Mayor of Bogotá, Colombia
MMC Leadership Board Member

BOGOTÁ
MAYOR GALÁN

FOREWORD

Dear Friends,

Migration is shaping the future of our cities, our economies, and our world. And while too many world leaders debate and delay, mayors are getting things done. They are proving that migration isn't a crisis to be managed—it's an opportunity to be seized.

At the Mayors Migration Council (MMC), our mission is clear: ensure mayors have the resources, access, and influence to turn their vision into action. And in 2024, that mission was never more urgent—or more impactful.

This year, we worked with mayors from over 80 cities, expanding our global reach to 275 cities. Mayor Carlos Galán of Bogotá and Mayor Maimunah Mohd Sharif of Kuala Lumpur joined our Leadership Board, bringing critical regional perspectives to the global stage. Through direct engagement, we helped mayors secure a seat at high-level diplomatic tables like the Global Forum on Migration and Development and shape multilateral commitments, from the UN Pact for the Future to the G20 Leaders' Declaration.

We also delivered real results where they matter most: on the ground. Through our Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees, we exceeded our \$25 million fundraising goal ahead of schedule, mobilizing \$28 million to date. That investment has supported 26 cities, improving the lives of over 100,000 people—and reaching countless more. But the real measure of success is what happens next: 90 percent of those cities leveraged their initial funding to secure additional investments, tripling the MMC's impact and driving long-term systems change.

Mayors are also shaping the biggest policy frontiers of our time—climate migration, regional pathways, and economic inclusion. This year, we expanded the Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration, released groundbreaking research with C40 Cities to shape UN climate negotiations, and launched the Mayors of the Americas Task Force on Migration—an initiative to unlock new pathways and promote economic inclusion across the Western Hemisphere.

The leadership of mayors was also recognized in the UN Secretary-General's 2024 Report on the Global Compact for Migration, reinforcing their role as essential partners in helping national governments stay on track with their commitments.

At the same time, we are strengthening our own foundation to ensure long-term impact. In 2024, we began transitioning from a donor-led governance model—one that guided us through our startup phase—to a new representative Governing Board that will position the MMC for the next five years and beyond. One thing will not change: our Leadership Board of mayors will remain at the heart of our work, ensuring our strategy stays grounded in the realities of the cities we serve.

Yet even as cities lead, the global migration landscape is becoming more urgent and more polarized. National governments are stepping back from global commitments. The multilateral system is faltering. Divisive politics are fueling inaction. Anti-immigrant rhetoric is on the rise. And cities—whether points of origin, transit, destination, or return—are being asked to do

more with fewer resources, as philanthropies and other donors retreat from migration.

This is a moment that demands action. Cities are where migrants and refugees live, where policies succeed or fail, and where real solutions take shape. The MMC exists to ensure that mayors have the tools, influence, and global platform to deliver results. Because when cities lead, progress follows.

As we look ahead, the stakes are higher than ever. But so is our resolve. Let this year be a testament to what's possible when cities lead—and a call to action for all who believe in the power of mayors to drive lasting, transformative change.

I am grateful to our mayors for their leadership, to our partners for their trust, and to the MMC team for their talent and relentless dedication. Together, we're not just rethinking migration—we're redefining it.

Here's to another year of impact—and the many more ahead.

Vittoria Zanuso
Executive Director, Mayors Migration Council

ABOUT



□ Maimunah Mohd Sharif,
Mayor of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Credit: Bryan Anselm/Redux

***“Cities thrive because of their people,
not just their infrastructure, and I am
proud of Kuala Lumpur’s role as an
inclusive city for all.”***

Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Mayor of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
MMC Leadership Board Member



WHO WE ARE

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.

Created by mayors for mayors, we are a team of political advisors and urban practitioners guided by a Leadership Board of global city leaders, including the Mayors of Amman, Bogotá, Freetown, Kampala, Kuala Lumpur, Milan, Montréal, San Antonio, and Zürich. As a Sponsored Project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, our work is made possible by philanthropic and government funders.

WHAT WE DO

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

OUR COALITION

Our coalition includes mayors of all city sizes, geographical locations, and migration contexts. Our core city partners are organized in three tiers of engagement:

- **Leadership Cities:** Cities with mayors serving on the MMC Leadership Board, acting as our primary ambassadors and guiding our programmatic strategy.
- **Action Cities:** Cities that actively participate in MMC core programs, such as Mayoral Task Forces or the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees.
- **Coalition Cities:** Cities that engage in MMC activities, such as diplomatic events, advocacy campaigns, technical sessions, or research initiatives.

The MMC is not a fee-based membership network to ensure that all cities, regardless of size or resources, can engage. Any city across the world can join our growing coalition by actively participating in MMC programs and demonstrating a strong commitment to supporting migrants and displaced people.



Medellín, Colombia
MMC Coalition City
Credit: iStock

IMPACT

Kampala, Uganda
MMC Leadership City
Credit: iStock/FrankvandenBergh



“As the level of government closest to citizens, cities have proven themselves to be nimble, progressive, and responsive. They stand ready to work together with their national governments to collectively move further and faster.”

Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr, Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone
MMC Leadership Board Member



IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

80+

Cities engaged in MMC activities worldwide

45+

Cities mobilized through diplomatic engagements

\$6.4M+

Unlocked for city-led initiatives

15+

Mayors assumed leadership roles

10+

Global policy positions influenced

50K+

Migrants and refugees reached

110+

Media headlines featuring MMC mayors and their impact

12

Cities supported by the Global Cities Fund



CITY DIPLOMACY

Our City Diplomacy programs support mayors to influence policy decisions at the national and international level to ensure they reflect and address the realities in cities, where most migrants live. We elevate mayors and their local actions to global stages, deliver joint city advocacy campaigns, and create bridges for cities to influence national and global changemakers.

In 2024, we mobilized over **45 city leaders across diplomatic engagements**, including the new Mayors of the Americas Task Force on Migration; facilitated over **30 global dialogues** to connect cities to policymakers; and coordinated **15 city policy contributions**, including mayoral joint statements and political

agendas, to influence national and international migration policy. As a result, mayors secured formal access to **4 multilateral processes**, from the 2024 Global Forum on Migration and Development to the United Nations General Assembly and the G20, and influenced over **10 global policy positions**, including historic commitments to respect the rights of migrants regardless of status in the G20 Leaders' Declaration and the recognition of city leadership in the UN Secretary-General's Biannual Report on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration. This year, **90 percent of our city partners reported an increased ability to engage in multilateral processes** on migration and displacement as a result of the MMC's support.



 **Valérie Plante, Mayor of Montréal, Canada**
MMC Leadership Board Member
Credit: UCLG

CITY DIPLOMACY BY THE NUMBERS

45+

City leaders mobilized across
diplomatic engagements

30+

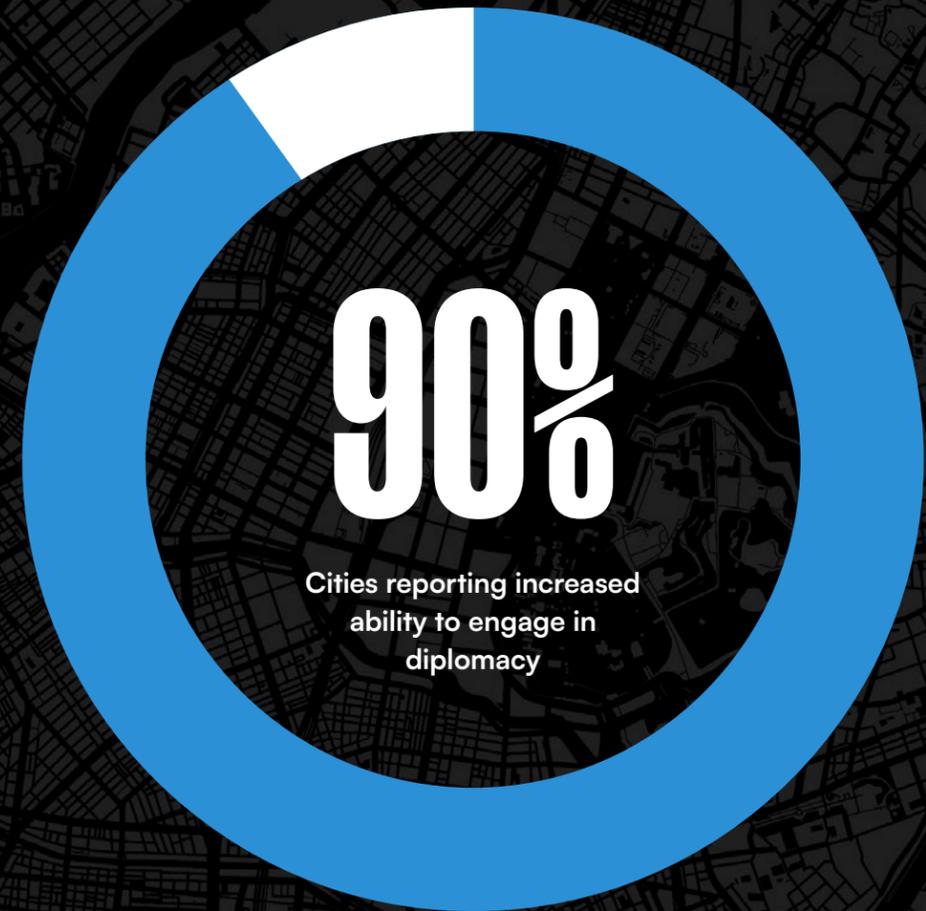
Global dialogues to connect
cities to policymakers

4

Multilateral processes
mainstreaming cities

10

Global policy positions
influenced



Expanding city access at the Global Forum on Migration and Development

In January, the MMC secured unprecedented access for nearly 30 city officials at the [14th Global Forum on Migration and Development](#) (GFMD) hosted by the Government of France, marking a significant milestone in strengthening city engagement in global migration governance. Leaders from London, Paris, Boston, Tlaxcala, São Paulo, Quezon City, and beyond directly presented migration policy recommendations—on climate migration, migration pathways, and local-national coordination—to national governments, including Colombia, the next GFMD chair,

shaping future policy discussions at the highest levels. Demonstrating their leadership, cities also delivered over 120 local pledges through the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees, the official pathway for cities to commit to the UN Global Compacts. By presenting these commitments directly to the IOM’s Director General, city officials elevated city-led solutions, such as income assistance for migrants and internally displaced people in México City and legal aid for asylum seekers in Boston, reinforcing the role of local governments in global migration governance.



“Cities are where the action happens. When we talk about migration and displacement, we’re actually talking about cities.”

Amy Pope, Director General, IOM, UN Migration Agency



IOM Director General Amy Pope with UCLG Secretary General Emilia Saiz, MMC Director of Policy and Advocacy Maggie Powers. Credit: UCLG



Intendente Mauricio Emilio Zunino Canepa (Montevideo), Mayor Carlos Fernando Galán (Bogotá), Mayor Valérie Plante (Montréal), Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr (Freetown), and Mayor Yousef Al Shwarbeh (Amman) at UNGA 79. Credit: MMC

Delivering critical momentum at the United Nations General Assembly

In September, the MMC convened the mayors of Amman, Bogotá, Chicago, Freetown, Montréal, and Montevideo on the sidelines of the [79th Session of the UN General Assembly](#) in New York City to push forward city priorities on climate migration, economic inclusion, and migration pathways. As members of the UN Secretary-General’s Advisory Group of Local and Regional Governments, mayors met directly with him to advocate for stronger recognition of city leadership in global governance and influence the UN Pact for the Future, a roadmap to reinvigorate

multilateralism at all levels of governance. Their advocacy delivered tangible results: the UN General Assembly’s Pact adopted key mayoral priorities, from maximizing migrants’ contributions to upholding refugee protections and strengthening city engagement. The UN Secretary-General’s Biannual Report on Migration also recognized the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees as a vital platform for city-led commitments, underscoring the need for more localized funding and direct financial support to ensure effective implementation at the municipal level.



“We need to ensure that the vision and realities of the local level inform global policy. The local government voices and actions are needed to renew multilateralism.”

António Guterres, UN Secretary-General

Raising ambitions on migration and climate at G20

In November, the MMC joined a coalition of over 50 mayors—including Leadership Board mayors from Freetown and Montréal—at the [Urban20 Summit](#) (U20), where they secured the strongest-ever recognition of migration and displacement in U20 history and, for the first time, highlighted climate migration as an urgent issue. Mayors called on the G20 to recognize the vital role of local governments and allocate at least \$800 billion annually in public investment by 2030. They also pushed for 40 percent of new, low-interest financing

for city-led projects to be directed to vulnerable and underserved communities, a critical step as cities face systemic financial barriers that limit their ability to scale solutions. Delivering the landmark U20 Communiqué to Brazil’s President, mayors successfully shaped the G20 Leaders’ Declaration, which echoed their advocacy by committing to support migrants, uphold human rights regardless of status, and sustain dialogue on migration and displacement in future G20 Presidencies—marking a significant precedent for future city diplomacy on the global stage.



“Cities are home to the agents of change we need. The presence of so many mayors today is proof that local governments want to and can do their part.”

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, President of Brazil



MMC Leadership Board Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyers of Freetown (Sierra Leone) delivers the U20 Communiqué to Brazil’s President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, along with Mayor Anne Hidalgo of Paris (France) and Mayor Eduardo Paes of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil). Credit: UCLG



Mayor Brandon Johnson (Chicago) and Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyers of (Freetown) at Goals House during UNGA 79. Credit: Climate Migration Council

Deepening city leadership on climate migration

The MMC expanded the [Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration](#) run with C40 Cities, adding the mayors of Accra and Washington, DC, alongside Freetown, Milan, London, São Paulo, and Amman. Ahead of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP29) in Baku, the Task Force released new research to support advocacy and investment, including [Future Urban Landscapes](#), which projects that up to eight million people could migrate to cities like Bogotá, Amman, Freetown, and Karachi by 2050 if Paris Agreement targets are unmet. It also launched [Good Green Jobs and](#)

[Labor Migration](#), showcasing 30+ city initiatives leveraging migrants’ contributions to the green economy. Representing mayors at the White House Climate Migration Roundtables, the MMC engaged in US State Department and the National Security Council consultations to align climate migration efforts with foreign policy priorities in the Americas. Mayors also elevated the issue through high-profile events with the Climate Migration Council, including [Aspen Ideas: Climate Summit](#) and a panel at [Goals House](#) with the mayors of Freetown and Chicago.



“Only eight percent of the \$5 trillion required annually for urban climate action is available. It shouldn’t just be cities in the Global South leading the charge—global cooperation is essential.”

Yvonne Aki-Sawyers, Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone
MMC Leadership Board Member

Advancing city-led solutions for regional migration pathways

In response to rising displacement across the Western Hemisphere, the MMC launched the [Mayors of the Americas Task Force on Migration](#), uniting city leaders from Bogotá, Cali, Denver, Juárez, México City, San Antonio, and beyond to drive innovative, city-led migration solutions. Announced with Emerson Collective, in collaboration with IOM and CAF-Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean, the Task Force creates a platform for cities to lead where national governments remain stalled, ensuring migration is addressed at the local level with practical, actionable

solutions. To elevate Task Force priorities, the MMC participated in the Fourth Ministerial Meeting on the Los Angeles Declaration on Migration and Protection—marking the first time subnational governments were formally represented in such a high-level regional forum. Hosted by the US Secretary of State, this milestone set a precedent for deeper city engagement in regional migration policy. Looking ahead to the 2025 Summit of the Americas, the Task Force will present a political action agenda and concrete city-led solutions to accelerate progress.



“Cities are stepping up to address the immediate needs of newcomers seeking a better future and challenging the narrative that migration is a crisis simply because politics are in crisis.”

Ron Nirenberg, Mayor of San Antonio, United States
MMC Leadership Board Member



President Municipal Cruz Pérez Cuéllar (Juárez), Intendente Mauricio Emilio Zunino (Montevideo), Prefecta Paola Pabón (Pichincha), Mayor Brandon Johnson (Chicago), and Mayor Carlos Fernando Galán (Bogotá) at the launch of the Mayors of the Americas Task Force on Migration. Credit: MMC



Mayor Carlos Galán (Bogotá) at the 2024 CGI Annual Meeting. Credit: Sam Hollenshead for the Clinton Foundation

Building an advocacy agenda on economic inclusion

In 2024, the MMC launched a new initiative to expand economic opportunities for migrants and refugees, strengthen local economies, and shift migration narratives. Selected as a [Commitment to Action at the 2024 Clinton Global Initiative Annual Meeting](#), the initiative positions cities as leaders in driving inclusive economic policies and unlocking financial resources. From 2025-2027, the MMC will build a coalition of mayors committed to advancing economic inclusion, using their collective voice to influence national and

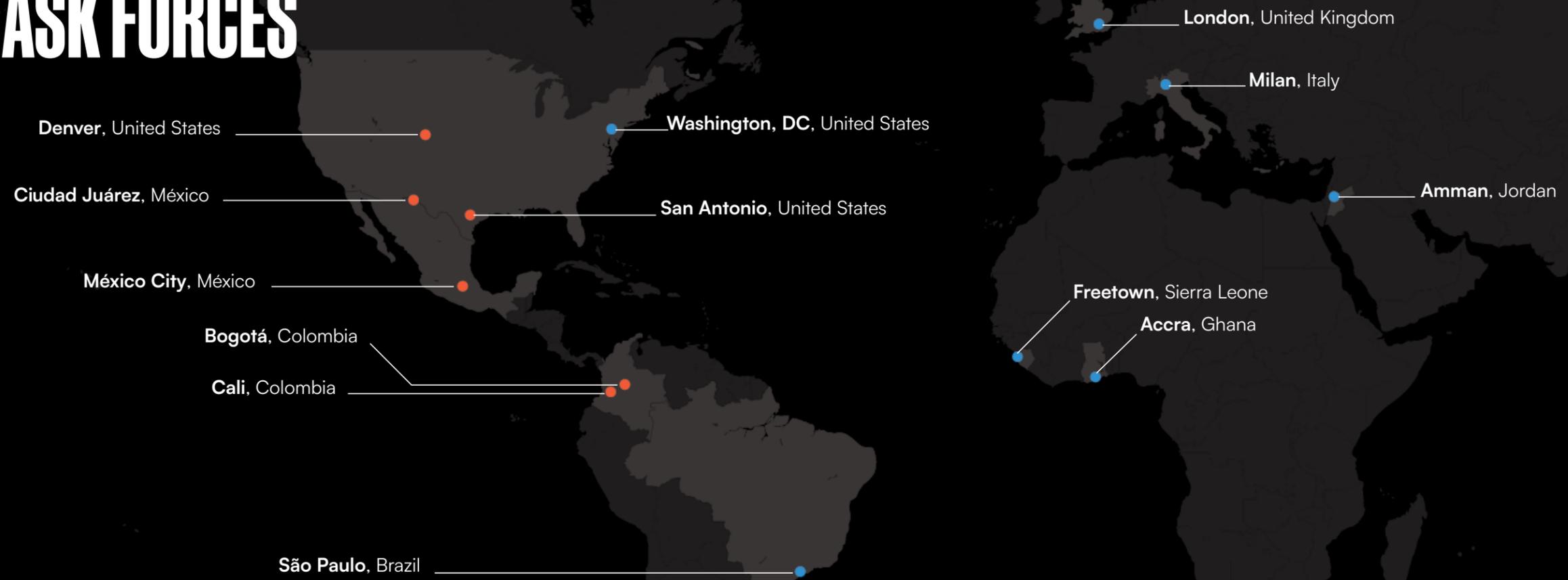
international decisions. Through a new window of the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees, cities will receive direct financial and technical support to create jobs, drive innovation, and strengthen local economies. New research will equip mayors with data to break policy barriers and scale economic opportunities. Building on this momentum, the MMC will continue driving change through its proven mayoral task force model, ensuring cities have the tools, policies, and influence to build more inclusive economies for all.



“We have the opportunity—and the responsibility—to shape global migration policy, fostering inclusion, economic opportunity, and stability for both migrants and local communities.”

Carlos Galán, Mayor of Bogotá, Colombia
MMC Leadership Board Member

2024 MAYORAL TASK FORCES



- Mayors of the Americas Task Force on Migration
- Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration

CITY PRACTICE

Our City Practice programs support mayors in implementing local actions that address the needs of migrants and displaced people living in their cities. We generate practical research, provide technical assistance, and drive financial resources to city governments to create a marketplace of city-led solutions that advance global goals.

In 2024, we issued **4 reports** with practical insights on urban migration and displacement; delivered **27 technical sessions** to provide cities with direct assistance and connect them to international service providers and resources; and elevated city-led solutions to nearly **20 donors and funding mechanisms**. As a result, we influenced more than **10 practitioner research products** and unlocked over **\$6.4 million in direct and follow-on funding** for city governments through the **Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees (GCF)**, the MMC's flagship program

for channeling financial and technical support directly to cities. This year, the GCF supported **12 city grantees**, providing direct support to nearly **12,000 migrants, displaced, and marginalized people**, with countless more benefiting indirectly. Since its launch, the fund has mobilized **\$28 million**—exceeding our target to reach \$25 million by 2025—and has helped **26 cities** improve the lives of more than **100,000 people**. Notably, **92 percent of city grantees** have leveraged this initial funding to secure more resources and continue, expand, or replicate their projects, tripling the MMC's initial investment and expanding critical programs. This year, **nearly 70 percent of our city partners reported increased capacity** to implement actions that advance the Global Compacts as a result of the MMC's support. We also facilitated city-to-city connections, with nearly **80 percent of cities reporting improved connections to peer cities** through sharing policy innovations, best practices, resources, and coordination agendas.



Guayaquil, Ecuador
MMC Action City
Credit: City of Guayaquil

CITY PRACTICE BY THE NUMBERS

27

Technical sessions delivered
to cities and practitioners

54K

Migrants and displaced
people reached

\$6.4M+

Unlocked for city-level
solutions

12

Cities funded to implement
the Global Compacts





Strengthening global practices for urban migrants and refugees

The MMC played a critical role in equipping multilateral humanitarian and development actors to work effectively with cities in supporting urban migrants and displaced people. At UNHCR’s DevUp Program Masterclass, the Mayor of Zürich shared the city’s refugee inclusion approach—emphasizing access, participation, and partnerships—to help UNHCR country officers translate these practices into local action. City leaders from Amman, Cape Town, Freetown, Koboko, Lagos, and Ramallah took the global stage at the UN’s [World Urban Forum](#) (WUF12) in Cairo, leading discussions on climate migration, migration pathways,

and urban inclusion alongside IOM, UNDP, UN-Habitat. The MMC also expanded the capacity of multilateral development banks (MDB) to localize support for migrants and refugees, joining the MDB Coordination Platform on Economic Migration and Forced Displacement—alongside the World Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Islamic Development Bank, and Inter-American Development Bank. During the UN General Assembly, the MMC convened CAF-Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean, laying the groundwork for increased investment in city-led migration solutions in the future.



“UNHCR country offices can benefit from partnerships with cities for innovative and pragmatic solutions, such as co-creating alternatives to camps or socio-economic inclusion programs.”

Corine Mauch, Mayor of Zürich, Switzerland
MMC Leadership Board Member

Building local capacity on migration through city-to-city partnerships

The MMC provided critical technical support to cities, enhancing their ability to design, implement, and institutionalize effective migration practices through city-to-city collaboration. For example, Medellín and Dunaivtsi exchanged insights on inclusive housing solutions for displaced populations, while Amman and Ramallah partnered on climate-resilient urban planning for refugee children and caregivers. The MMC also partnered with the International Rescue Committee to develop a city-to-city migration network set to launch in 2025 to improve migrant reception and resettlement in the US.

In addition, the MMC facilitated high-impact exchanges on the global stage, including a roundtable on economic inclusion with the mayors of Bogotá, Montevideo, and Chicago at the Clinton Global Initiative Annual Meeting, and a World Refugee Day discussion on migrant homelessness hosted by the Mayor of Paris and attended by 150 city leaders, including mayors from Lisbon, Bogotá, Denver, and Newark. These initiatives are equipping cities with the tools and partnerships needed to drive more inclusive migration solutions locally, while accelerating adoption of promising practices worldwide.



“Building partnerships at all levels—local, national, and international—is essential to provide the necessary support for managing migration and refugee issues.”

Yousef Al Shawarbeh, Mayor of Amman, Jordan
MMC Leadership Board Member



Expanding the Global Cities Fund to scale city-led solutions for migrants and refugees

In 2024, the MMC mobilized over \$6.4 million in direct and follow-on funding for city governments through the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees (GCF), its flagship mechanism for channeling financial and technical support directly to cities. This year, the GCF backed 12 city grantees, providing direct support to nearly 12,000 migrants, displaced, and marginalized people, with countless more benefiting indirectly. In parallel, the MMC secured new investments to expand the GCF in 2025, initially focusing on economic inclusion, reinforcing its multi-year [Commitment to Action](#) announced at the Clinton Global Initiative's 2024 Annual Meeting. Since launching, the GCF has

mobilized \$28 million—exceeding its \$25 million target ahead of schedule—and helped 26 cities across 22 countries improve the lives of more than 100,000 migrants, displaced, and marginalized people, while benefiting countless more. Notably, 90 percent of city grantees have leveraged this initial funding to secure more resources and continue, expand, or replicate their projects, tripling the MMC's initial investment. Building on this momentum, the MMC is working with partners to further scale the GCF to \$50 million, ensuring more cities have the funding needed to deliver solutions now, while pushing the global community to reimagine humanitarian and development aid for the future.



“The key to inclusion lies in quality pathways that respect cultural differences and origins of migrants and refugees, while supporting individuals and families in achieving real autonomy.”

Giuseppe Sala, Mayor of Milan, Italy
MMC Leadership Board Member



Amman, Jordan, MMC Leadership City
Credit: City of Amman

GLOBAL CITIES FUND BY THE NUMBERS

26

City grantees supported

22

Countries represented

100K+

Migrants and displaced people reached

\$22M+

Unlocked in direct and follow-on investments for cities

\$28M

Mobilized by the Global Cities Fund

92%

City graduates that secured resources to continue or expand their projects

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Beirut, Lebanon: Delivering accessible healthcare to marginalized local communities

Beirut, Lebanon, launched its first-ever *Municipal Mobile Health Clinic*, providing accessible healthcare to over 3,500 Lebanese, Syrian, Palestinian, and Iraqi residents—regardless of migration status. Building on the pilot’s success, the city invested its own resources to make the clinic a permanent part of Beirut’s healthcare system. Originally focused on providing vaccines and testing for migrants and refugees in remote areas, the clinic’s role expanded in 2024 as

millions of people were displaced from southern Lebanon. The municipality swiftly deployed it to areas with the highest concentrations of displaced Lebanese, delivering medicine and lifesaving care. Within days, it treated over 520 displaced families, with plans to remain in place for as long as needed. The clinic has become a vital lifeline for both newcomers and local communities, ensuring uninterrupted healthcare access in times of crisis and beyond.



Beirut, Lebanon. MMC Action City
Credit: Samer Saliba



Guayaquil, Ecuador. MMC Action City
Credit: City of Guayaquil

Guayaquil, Ecuador: Supporting returnees and migrants through a city-led inclusion center

Home to Ecuador’s second-largest population of Venezuelan migrants and refugees, Guayaquil used the GCF to launch *Centro Municipal Ciudadanos Integrados*, the city’s first municipal inclusion center. Strategically located at one of Guayaquil’s busiest transit hubs, the center provides legal assistance, psychological support, and pathways to inclusion for migrants, refugees, and Ecuadorian returnees. It supported nearly 4,000 individuals, successfully delivering more than 8,000

direct services and 600 referrals. The center quickly proved essential beyond the grant term. For example, when 300 Ecuadorian returnees arrived in Guayaquil from the US, the city swiftly mobilized the center to provide medical care, legal assistance, shelter, and support in reuniting with their families across the country. Recognizing its impact, Guayaquil committed to sustaining the center through funding from municipal revenues alongside additional support from philanthropic donors and IOM.

Medellín, Colombia: Expanding housing solutions for migrant and displaced families

Medellín provided emergency shelter to 1,250 migrant and refugee families at risk of homelessness, indirectly benefiting many more by stabilizing vulnerable communities. Recognizing that housing stability requires more than shelter, the city paired this intervention with essential services, including registration support, school enrollment for children, and job placement for parents. As a result, more than 75 percent of participating families secured permanent housing in Medellín, improving

their long-term prospects. Building on this success, the city independently mobilized nearly \$2 million from municipal revenues and philanthropic contributions to sustain and expand the program. Its impact has also gained international recognition, with the UN Refugee and Migration Agencies highlighting Medellín's approach to temporary housing for Venezuelan migrants as a promising model for cities worldwide, reinforcing its role in shaping urban migration and displacement solutions.



Milan, Italy: Unlocking the potential of migrant and refugee children through early education

The Municipality of Milan launched *First Steps in Milan*, providing early childhood education and daycare to over 320 migrant and refugee children up to age six, ensuring they develop linguistic, cognitive, and social skills for a smooth transition to primary school. Meanwhile, 250 newly arrived caregivers received language training, psychosocial support, and cultural orientation to navigate life in Milan. By intervening early, the program breaks the cycle of exclusion, as children in tailored preschools

are more likely to enroll in school, succeed academically, and achieve better long-term socio-economic outcomes. Milan also set a new standard for cross-sector collaboration, working with 13 civil society organizations to deliver the initiative, strengthening the city's foundation for long-term inclusion efforts. Building on this momentum, the city secured over \$400,000 in national funds to expand and sustain the program in 2025, ensuring more migrant families receive the support needed to thrive.

Nyamagabe, Rwanda: Creating green jobs through waste-to-energy and smart agriculture

Rwanda's Nyamagabe District launched *Building Community Resilience to Climate Variability*, a first-of-its-kind green job initiative with UNHCR Rwanda. The project employed 280 refugees and locals to convert organic waste from Kigeme refugee camp into renewable energy, powering public schools. Workers also transformed 50 hectares of landslide-prone hillsides into farmland, boosting the economy while preventing erosion. The initiative expanded

housing for refugees and host communities, servicing 120 plots with electricity, water, and roads for families to build homes. By creating opportunities for both refugees and local residents, the project generated jobs, strengthened climate resilience, and built social cohesion. Recognizing its impact on Rwanda's greenhouse gas reduction goals under the Paris Agreement, the Rwanda Green Fund, backed by the German government, awarded \$3.2 million to scale and sustain the initiative.



Nyamagabe, Rwanda. MMC Action City
Credit: City of Nyamaga



Accra, Ghana. MMC Action City
Credit: Samer Saliba

GLOBAL CITIES FUND GRANTEES

● 2021

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Barranquilla, Colombia
Beirut, Lebanon
Freetown, Sierra Leone
Lima, Peru
Medellín, Colombia
México City, México
Quito, Ecuador

● 2022

Accra, Ghana
Arua, Uganda
Beira, Mozambique
Bogotá, Colombia
Johannesburg, South Africa
Kampala, Uganda
Monrovia, Liberia

● 2023

Amman, Jordan
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Dunaivtsi, Ukraine
eThekweni, South Africa
Guayaquil, Ecuador
Hargeisa, Somaliland
Milan, Italy
Montevideo, Uruguay
Nairobi, Kenya
Nyamagabe District, Rwanda
Ramallah, Palestine

KNOWLEDGE & COMMUNICATIONS

Our Knowledge & Communications activities reinforce our core programs by raising awareness of city leadership and increasing understanding of urban migration and displacement among global audiences. We support mayors with advocacy campaigns, promotional events, and media engagements, as well as knowledge products and research partnerships.

In 2024, we organized or attended **8 global summits and events** to promote MMC mayors

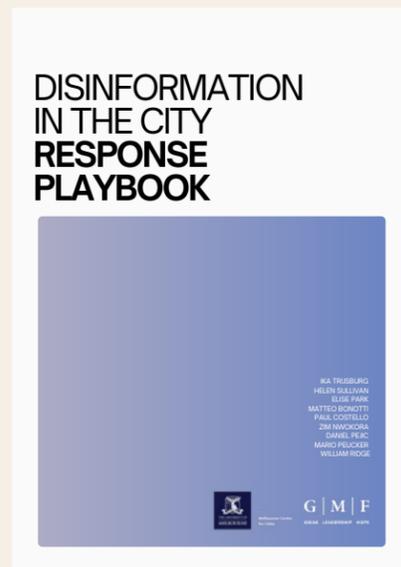
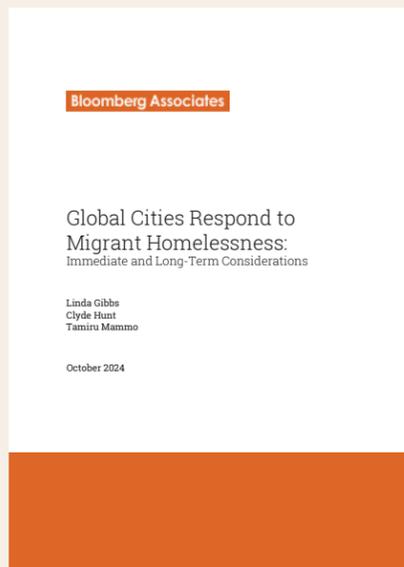
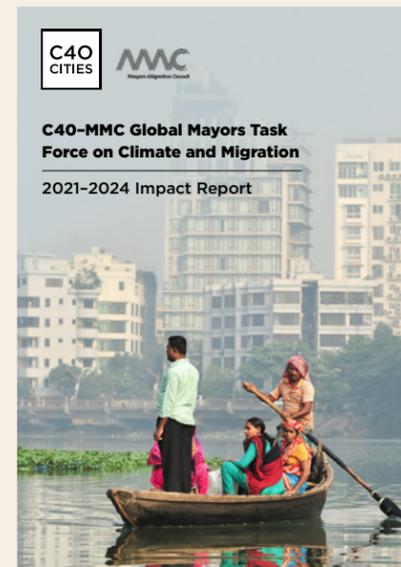
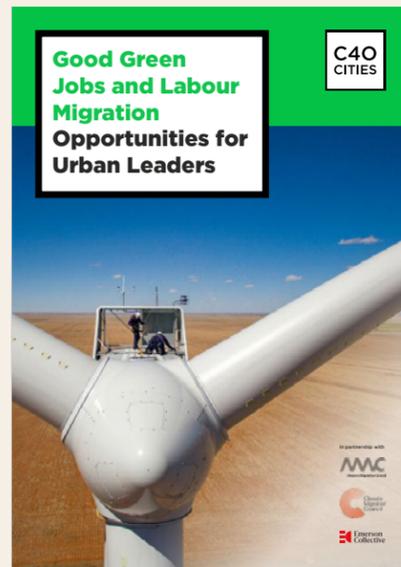
and city leadership; delivered **5 campaigns** to elevate key messages to global audiences; developed **27 media products**, including press releases, blogs, readouts, case studies, and other promotional materials; and issued **4 knowledge products**, such as reports, papers, and briefs. As a result, the MMC's work and impact was featured in **116 earned media placements** and **10 external research pieces**. Over **85 percent of our city partners reported improved visibility** as key actors on global migration and displacement issues.



Mayor Carlos Galán (Bogotá) interviewed at UNGA 79.
Credit: MMC

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

Publications



Featured



KNOWLEDGE & COMMUNICATIONS BY THE NUMBERS

27

Press releases, blogs, and other media products developed

116

Earned media hits recognizing MMC's work and impact

4

Reports and other knowledge products issued

10

External research products featuring the MMC



MMC COALITION

Around the world, our coalition mayors, city leaders, and partners are taking ambitious action to address the needs of migrant, displaced, and marginalized people. In 2024, we engaged mayors from **82 cities** worldwide—expanding our reach to more than 275 cities to date—and entered **12 strategic partnerships or alliances** with major city networks, UN agencies, and other organizations.



 Nairobi, Kenya
MMC Action City
Credit: Unsplash/Amani Nation

2024 COALITION BY THE NUMBERS

82

Cities engaged in MMC
activities worldwide

17

Mayors assumed
leadership roles

12

Strategic partnerships
or alliances entered

93%

Cities reporting satisfaction
with the MMC's coalition
and its results

MMC COALITION CITIES

2024 Cities

● Leadership Cities

Amman, Jordan
Bogotá, Colombia
Freetown, Sierra Leone
Kampala, Uganda
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Milan, Italy
Montréal, Canada
San Antonio, United States
Zürich, Switzerland

● Action Cities

Accra, Ghana
Arua, Uganda
Beira, Mozambique
Cali, Colombia
Casablanca, Morocco
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Denver, United States
Dunaivtsi, Ukraine
eThekweni, South Africa

Guayaquil, Ecuador
Hargeisa, Somaliland
Johannesburg, South Africa
Jaurez, México
London, United Kingdom
México City, México
Montevideo, Uruguay
Nairobi, Kenya

Nyamagabe District, Rwanda
Ramallah, Palestine
São Paulo, Brazil
Washington DC, United States

● Coalition Cities

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Andalusia, Spain
Auckland, New Zealand
Barranquilla, Colombia
Beirut, Lebanon
Bengaluru, India
Boston, United States
Bristol, United Kingdom
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Cape Town, South Africa
Chaguanas, Trinidad and Tobago
Chicago, United States
Curitiba, Brazil

Dakar, Sénégal
Dhaka North, Bangladesh
Dhaka South, Bangladesh
Djinany, Sénégal
Dubai, United Arab Emirates
El Paso, United States
Jacksonville, United States
Kanifing, The Gambia
Karachi, Pakistan
Koboko, Uganda
Lagos, Nigeria
Lancaster, United States
Madison, United States
Madrid, Spain

Markham, Canada
Mechelen, Belgium
Medellín, Colombia
Miami-Dade County, United States
Monrovia, Liberia
Mopti Regional Council, Mali
New York City, United States
New York State, United States
Paris, France
Philadelphia, United States
Phoenix, United States

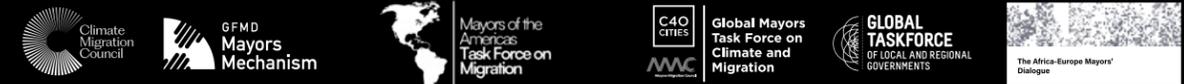
Pichincha, Ecuador
Poitiers, France
Quezon, Philippines
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Riohacha, Colombia
Salvador, Brazil
Sausalito, United States
Sédhiou Region, Sénégal
Solone, Ukraine
Sydney, Australia
Tlaxcala, México
Toronto, Canada
West Cameroon Regional Council (FOGAR), Cameroon

● MMC Alumni Cities

Strategic Partners



Strategic Alliances



GOVERNANCE

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
MMC Leadership City
Credit: iStock/Mlenny





□ Valérie Plante,
Mayor of Montréal, Canada
Credit: Bryan Anselm/Redux

“Our Leadership Board of mayors ensures that our work remains deeply rooted in the realities of cities and the needs of their residents.”

Valérie Plante, Mayor of Montréal, Canada
MMC Leadership Board Member

LEADERSHIP BOARD

Our Leadership Board represents mayors from different geographies and migration contexts and guides the MMC's strategic direction and programs to ensure that our mission is driven

by and responsive to the needs of cities. It is composed of up to 10 mayors serving three-year terms, which can be renewed provided that the mayor remains in office.

Leadership Board members as of December 2024



Yousef Al Shawarbeh
Mayor of Amman,
Jordan



Carlos Galán
Mayor of Bogotá,
Colombia



Yvonne Aki-Sawyer
Mayor of Freetown,
Sierra Leone



Erias Lukwago
Lord Mayor of Kampala,
Uganda



Maimunah Mohd Sharif
Mayor of Kuala Lumpur,
Malaysia



Giuseppe Sala
Mayor of Milan,
Italy



Valérie Plante
Mayor of Montréal,
Canada



Ron Nirenberg
Mayor of San Antonio,
United States



Corine Mauch
Mayor of Zürich,
Switzerland

□ Caption: Bristol, UK
Former MMC Leadership Board City
Credit: Unsplash/Martyna Bober



GOVERNING BOARD

In 2024, the MMC began the transition from a donor-led Management Committee, which oversaw the organization during its 2020-2024 startup phase, to a new and representative Governing Board comprised of a dynamic mix of former mayors, social impact leaders,

and subject-matter experts. In December, the Management Committee appointed three Co-Chairs who will guide the launch of the MMC’s 2025—2030 Business Plan and recruit additional Governing Board members in 2025.

Inaugural Governing Board Members



Marvin Rees, Chair for Engagement and Public Affairs

“As a former mayor, I’ve seen the transformative power of cities coming together to learn from one other, stand in solidarity, and raise global ambitions together. As a Governing Board member, I’ll ensure the MMC remains connected to city realities and amplifies mayors’ leadership on the international stage.”



Cecilia Vaca Jones, Chair for Strategy and Business Development

“Migration is not a challenge to be solved—it’s an opportunity to build stronger, more inclusive cities. This Governing Board will position the MMC to lead with vision, innovate with confidence, and deliver meaningful impact through true partnership.”



Ingrid Rasmussen, Chair for Governance and Operations

“Strong governance, transparent operations, and financial resilience are the foundation of impactful organizations. As the MMC transitions beyond its startup phase, this Governing Board will ensure our operations remain grounded in excellence, enabling mayors to continue driving meaningful change in their communities.”

2024 Management Committee Members



The MMC operates as a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA), a 501(c)(3) public charity. Fiduciary, legal, and governance responsibilities rest with RPA’s Board of Directors. The MMC Leadership Board and the Governing Board serve in an advisory capacity only, advising the MMC’s strategy and operations without assuming fiduciary authority.

Caption: Boston, US
MMC Coalition City
Credit: Unsplash/Jimmy Woo





TEAM

Our team of committed and passionate experts implements the MMC's day-to-day programmatic, operational, and strategic priorities under the guidance of the Leadership Board and Management Committee and

the legal oversight of RPA. The team is headquartered in New York City, has staff in the United States, Colombia, France, Switzerland, and United Kingdom, and works with partners and consultants all over the world.

Our Team Members



Vittoria Zanuso
Executive Director



Maggie Powers
Director of Policy and Advocacy



Samer Saliba
Director of City Practice



Caroline Twigg
Board and Partner Lead



Manuel Trujillo
City Engagement Lead



Helen Yu
City Practice Lead



Quinn Formel
Operations Lead



Tony Chen
Finance Lead



Clara Keller-Skupień
City Diplomacy Manager



Cynthia Nahhas
Communications Manager



Erin Worden
Knowledge and Impact Manager



Savarni Sanka
City Practice Manager



Estefania Ramirez
Program Associate



Asha Richards
Administrative Associate

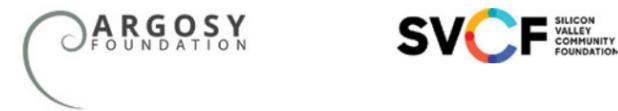
FUNDERS & PARTNERS

We are grateful to our funders and partners for their continued support and strategic insights to help advance our mission.

Institutional Funders



Project Funders



Strategic Partners



Strategic Alliances



Fiscal Sponsor

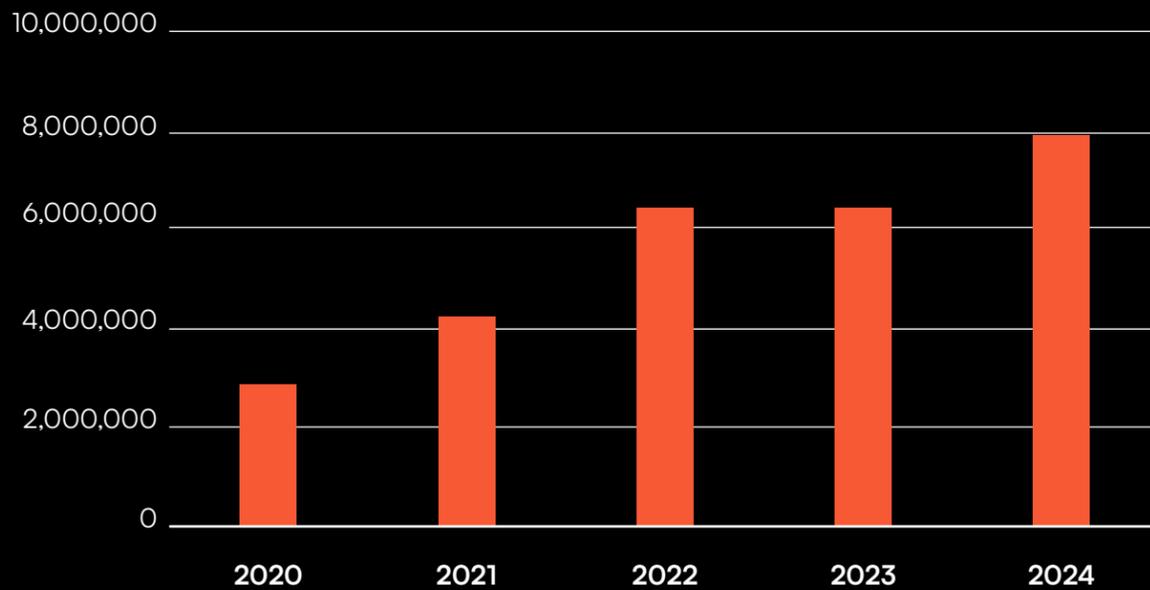


Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA) accelerates philanthropy in pursuit of a just world. Continuing the Rockefeller family's legacy of thoughtful, effective philanthropy, RPA is a global nonprofit that remains at the forefront of philanthropic growth and innovation, with a diverse team of experienced grantmakers with significant depth of knowledge across the spectrum of issue areas. Founded in 2002, RPA has grown into one of the world's largest philanthropic service organizations and has facilitated more than \$4 billion in grantmaking to more than 70 countries. RPA currently advises on and manages more than \$500 million in annual giving by individuals, families, foundations, and corporations. RPA also serves as a fiscal sponsor for more than 100 projects, providing governance, management, and operational infrastructure to support their charitable purposes.

FINANCIALS

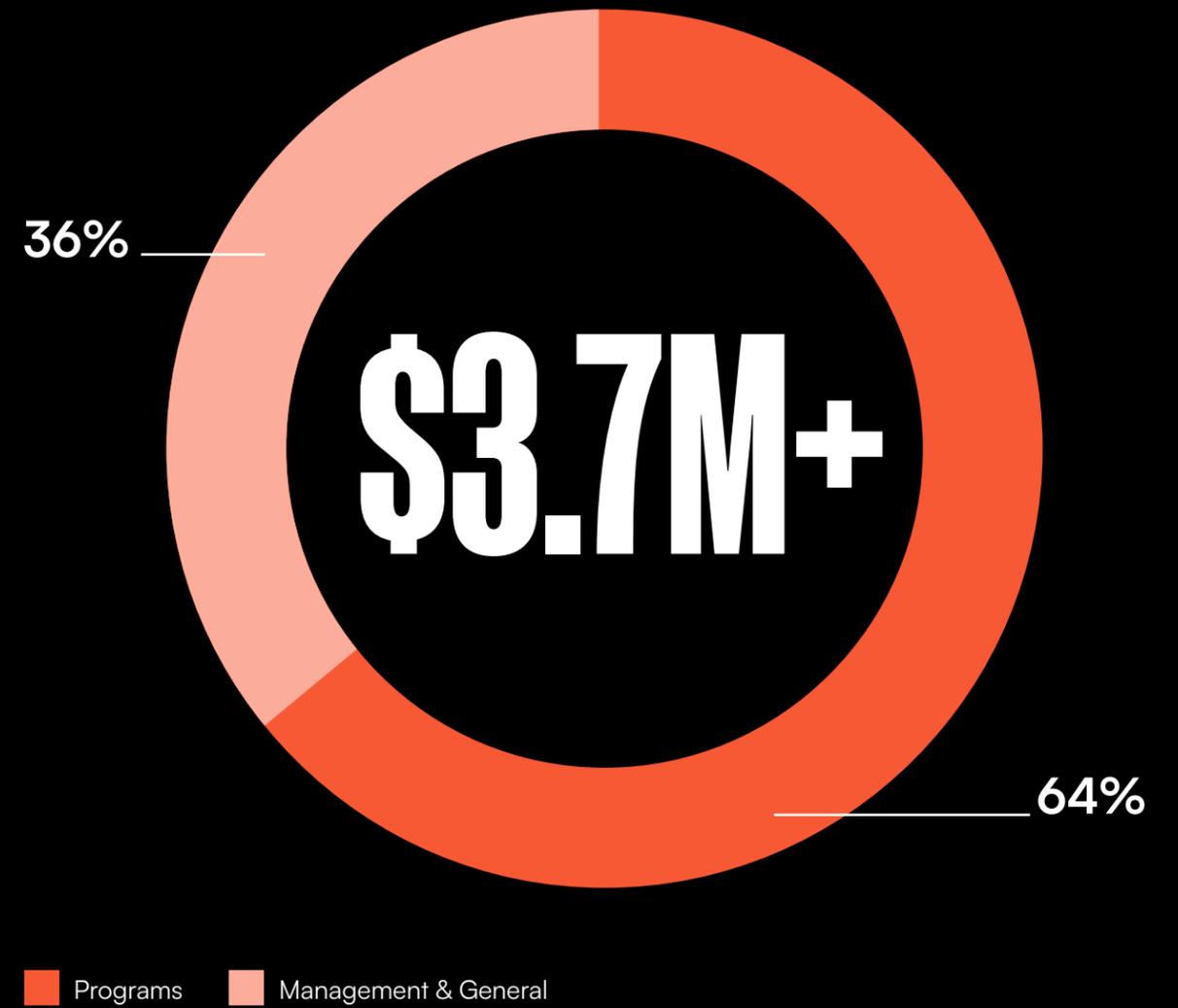
In 2024, the MMC secured more than **\$7.8 million** in new funding commitments, bringing revenue secured to date to nearly \$30 million.

2020 - 2024 Revenues*



*Revenues recognized in the year include multi-year funds committed from donors in advance, for programming activity in 2024 and beyond.

2024 Expenses





“We call upon the UN and its Member States to recognize the crucial role that cities play on migration and refugee issues and to allocate the necessary resources to sustain this vital work.”

Yousef Al Shawarbeh, Mayor of Amman, Jordan
MMC Leadership Board Member

Get involved

As a Mayor

Join our coalition by adding your pledge to the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees at localaction.mayorsmechanism.org and learn more about the Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees at mayorsmigrationcouncil.org/gcf

As a Partner

Express interest in becoming an institutional donor or strategic partner by emailing us at fund@mayorsmigrationcouncil.org

Stay in Touch

Visit our website:
mayorsmigrationcouncil.org

Email us:
contact@mayorsmigrationcouncil.org

Subscribe to our newsletter:
<https://bit.ly/mmc-newsletter>

Follow us on social media:

 [@MayorsMigration](https://twitter.com/MayorsMigration)

 [@MayorsMigration](https://facebook.com/MayorsMigration)

 [Mayors Migration Council](https://linkedin.com/company/MayorsMigrationCouncil)

“Cities are where migration happens. Mayors are the ones managing these realities daily, yet we are too often sidelined in global policy discussions. That needs to change.”

Erias Lukwago, Lord Mayor of Kampala, Uganda
MMC Leadership Board Member