Global Migration Group (GMG) Retreat

From 22nd to 24th February 2016, Parvati Nair, UNU-GCM Director, and Julia Blocher, Research Officer at the UNU Office of New York, participated in the Global Migration Group (GMG) strategic retreat in New York and shared the important contributions from UNU on migration-related research. At the retreat, the Multi Annual Work Plan 2016-2018 of the GMG was discussed, providing the different GMG member agencies the opportunity to share ideas, plans and priorities in terms of the overall work plan, as well as for the work plans of each thematic working group and task force. UN Women has taken on the Chairmanship of the GMG for 2016, and seeks to elevate the focus on women in the migration debate and ensure that both men and women are impacted positively by the work of the GMG. The GMG is an inter-agency group that brings together heads of agencies to promote the wider application of all relevant international and regional instruments and norms relating to migration, and to encourage the adoption of more coherent, comprehensive and better coordinated approaches to the issue of international migration.

14th Annual Coordination Meeting on International Migration

UNU-GCM Director, Parvati Nair, participated in the 14th Annual Coordination Meeting on International Migration, organised by the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) on 25th-26th February 2016 in New York. She contributed to an interactive panel on ‘Migrants in the Media: Improving Public Perceptions’. The meeting focused on the progress in monitoring and implementing migration-related commitments in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. It highlighted the contributions of relevant intergovernmental bodies and forums to the follow-up and review of these goals. The meeting participants also had the opportunity to present and coordinate their activities on migration, particularly in view of the high-level plenary meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, to be convened by the UN General Assembly on 19th September 2016. The meeting brought together a wide range of participants from within the United Nations system and beyond.

New Publications at UNU-GCM

UNU-GCM is pleased to highlight new publications this month. An article by GCM Research Fellow, Megha Amrith, on ‘Tentative Friendships among Low-income Migrants in São Paulo’s Commercial Districts’ has been published online by the journal Urban Studies. A two-part policy report by GCM consultant Anjali Fleury, examining the migration of women from the Northern Triangle (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) to Mexico and the need for improved protections and rights, is now available on the GCM website. Also available on the website is a policy report by research intern Fanny Desvachez on ‘Facilitating the Disclosure of Gender-related Persecutions in European Asylum Procedures’.

Collaboration with IBEI: Course on International Migrations

UNU-GCM Research Fellow, Valeria Bello, has begun teaching a course this semester to Masters students at the Institut Barcelona D’Estudis Internacionals (IBEI). The course is on ‘International Migrations’. This teaching contribution reflects continued collaboration between UNU-GCM and IBEI. Each year, UNU-GCM hosts an internship programme within which IBEI students gain practical experience by working closely with GCM researchers and assisting them in research and administrative activities.