



CLIMATE CHANGE AND MIGRATION  
IMPLICATIONS FOR EUROPEAN POLICIES



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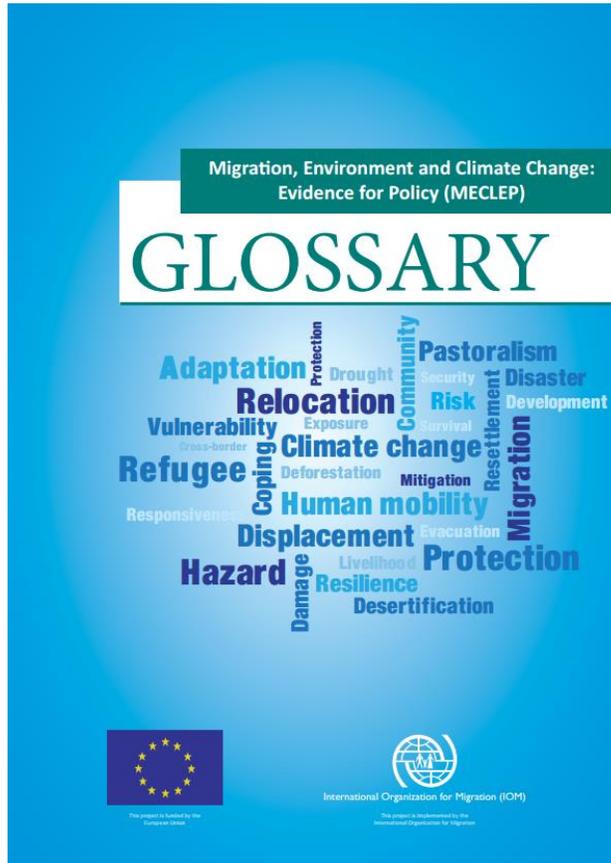
**MIGRATION, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
A LONG ROAD**

# Framing a complex issue

- Environmental migration: a complex multi-causal phenomenon
- Impacts of both sudden and slow onset events
- Climate change as an exacerbating factor
- Gender contextual dimensions
- Terminology and legal frameworks



# Environmental Migration



Environmental migrants are persons or groups of persons who, for compelling reasons of sudden or progressive **changes in the environment** that adversely affect their lives or living conditions, are **obliged to leave their homes or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently,** and who move either **within their country or abroad.**

2011 Glossary on Migration, 2nd Edition. *International Migration Law* No. 25, IOM, Geneva.

2011 IDM Workshop “Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration”



**A LONG ROAD**

## Migration in Adaptation

Work program on Loss and Damage created: paragraph 14(f) calls for Parties to take “measures to enhance understanding, coordination and cooperation with regard to *climate change induced displacement, migration and planned relocation*, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels” to enhance action on adaptation.



## Migration in Knowledge Transfer

Facilitation of knowledge transfer and best practices related to loss and damage

## Warsaw International Mechanism

*for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change (WIM)* created, to help developing countries that are particularly vulnerable, with three pillars: Enhancing understanding; dialogue, coordination, coherence, and synergies; action and support

## Migration in Loss and Damage

COP Agreed on their role in addressing loss and damage. Paragraph 7.(vi) “advance the understanding of and expertise on loss and damage, which includes [...] how impacts of climate change are affecting patterns of *migration, displacement and human mobility*.”



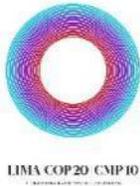
## Task Force on Displacement

The *Task Force on Displacement* established under the WIM in the Paris Agreement; created a clearing house to gather and disseminate information related to risk. Migrants acknowledged in Preamble.

PARAGRAPH 50 “*avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change*”

## Implementation of WIM

The 2-year workplan and structure of the Warsaw International Mechanism was approved by COP



## COP of Solutions

WIM reviewed and a 5-year rolling work plan approved by COP. Ban Ki-Moon and François Hollande highlighted the importance of human migration, and over 20 events were organized dedicated to addressing human migration.



## Task Force on Displacement Recommendations

“Recommendations from the report of the Excom/WIM on integrated approaches to averting, minimizing and addressing *displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change*” adopted by the UNFCCC Parties in Decision 10/CP.24.



IOM organized a technical meeting to document best practices, challenges, and lessons as well as to develop recommendations for the Task Force on Displacement in relation to the three pillars of the Warsaw International Mechanism.



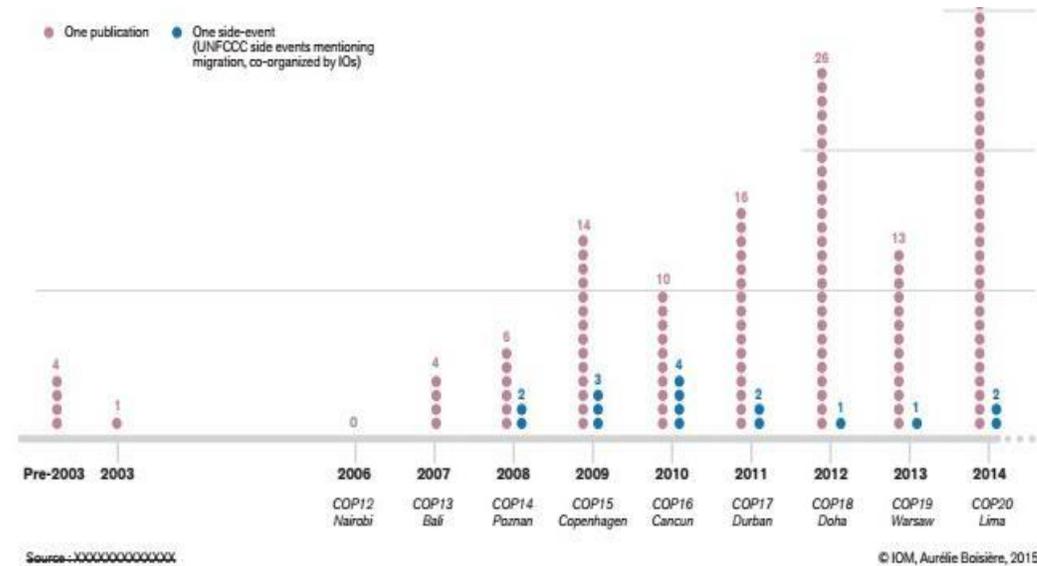
## Launch of Clearing House for Risk Transfer

On behalf of the Task Force on Displacement, IOM and PDD organized a Stakeholder Meeting to take stock of progress under the different areas of the Task Force's workplan and inform the development of the integrated recommendations that will be presented at COP24 in Katowice, Poland.



# Global Climate Change Negotiations - UNFCCC

- Paris Agreement - Main entry point for migration issues within climate change negotiations
- Building on decision of the Cancun (2010) and Doha (2011)



- **Cancun Adaptation Framework (2010):** paragraph 14(f) calls for Parties to take “measures to enhance understanding, coordination and cooperation with regard to climate change induced displacement, migration and planned relocation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels” to enhance action on adaptation.
- **Doha COP18 (2012):** Decision 3/CP.18: paragraph 7.(vi) “acknowledges the further work to advance the understanding of and expertise on loss and damage, which includes [...] **how impacts of climate change are affecting patterns of migration, displacement and human mobility**”.

21ST CONFERENCE  
OF PARTIES OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS  
FRAMEWORK  
CONVENTION ON  
CLIMATE CHANGE  
(UNFCCC)



# Global Climate Change Negotiations - UNFCCC

## The Paris Agreement and Loss and Damage Agenda (2015)

### PREAMBLE

- *“Acknowledging that climate change is a common concern of humankind, parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, **migrants**, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations [...]”.*

### COP 21 Decision on Loss and Damage, PARAGRAPH 50

- *“Also requests the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism **to establish [...] a task force** to complement [...] existing bodies and expert groups [...] to develop recommendations for integrated approaches to **avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change**”*

# Global Climate Change Negotiations - UNFCCC

## UNFCCC Task Force on Displacement (TFD)

- The Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM Excom), entrusted by the COP to operationalize the TFD in 2016
- TFD developed recommendations to “avert, minimize and address climate displacement” by fall 2018
- **Recommendations presented at COP24 and endorsed by States**



[Source: UNFCCC, TFD Webpage](#)

# 10 Key Takeaways

1. The recommendations address all forms of human mobility linked to climate change.
2. Countries should integrate climate change and migration concerns when formulating laws, policies and strategies based on evidence.
3. Climate change and disaster national policies and tools are relevant instruments to address climate migration concerns.
4. Global climate policy needs to be connected to global migration policy.
5. The facilitation of regular international migration pathways should be considered in the context of climate change.
- 6) The issue of internal displacement due to the adverse impacts of climate change is clearly acknowledged.
- 7) The adverse impacts of climate change on human mobility can only be addressed through a collaborative approach, including affected communities and individuals.
- 8) The UNFCCC needs to continue and step up its efforts to address climate change and migration challenges, through a cross cutting approach.
- 9) The United Nations system is strongly called upon to respond to climate change and mobility challenges.
- 10) The recommendations do not elaborate on gender and human rights issues.

# A historical turning point for the international governance of migration

- The New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants (2016)
- Negotiations by UN Member States to adopt a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (2018)
- Natural disasters, environmental and/or climate change as key drivers of migration
- Environmental impacts of migration
- Multi-stakeholders consultations at national and regional levels to input to official negotiation process
- Marrakech meeting, December 2018

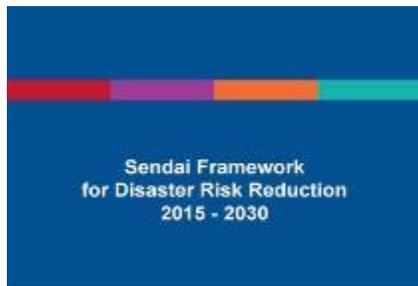


# 10 Key takeaways from GCM:

1. Identifies slow onset environmental degradation, natural disasters and climate change impacts as drivers of contemporary migration.
2. Acknowledges the multi-causality of migration as environmental drivers intersects with political, economic and demographic drivers.
3. Articulates comprehensive potential responses to address these drivers
4. Recognizes that climate mitigation and adaptation measures in countries of origin need to be prioritized to minimize drivers of migration.
5. Acknowledges that adaptation in situ or return of migrants might not be possible in some cases and that the development of regular migration pathways
6. States to cooperate to identify, develop and strengthen solutions for people migrating in the context of slow-onset environmental degradation
6. Outlines the importance of working at the regional level to address environmental drivers of migration.
7. Encourages policy coherence by highlighting that the GCM rests on a number of global instruments related to climate change, disaster and environmental governance
8. Highlights the need to take into account recommendations stemming from state-led initiatives that have extensively considered issues of mobility linked to natural disasters outside of the UN context
9. Recognizes the need for more investments in strengthened evidence, data and research to address environmental migration challenges.

# Policy Coherence

- I. Migration into key environmental, climate change, development, humanitarian policy



- II. Climate change and disaster concerns into migration governance frameworks



# IOM's Three Institutional Objectives on MECC

1. To prevent forced migration resulting from environmental factors
2. To provide assistance and protection to affected populations and seek durable solutions where forced migration does occur
3. To facilitate migration as a possible adaptation strategy to environmental and climate change



# IOM's Strategic Objectives on migration governance in the context of environmental degradation and climate change



1. Solutions for people to stay
2. Solutions for people on the move
3. Solutions for people to move

# Policy and Operational Options



## Help people to stay

Minimizing forced migration

Enhancing livelihoods  
Extension of access to insurance  
DRR and CCA



## Help people to move

Facilitating migration

Skills training  
Facilitating internal mobility  
Facilitating cross border mobility  
Facilitating remittances  
Planned relocation  
Admission, stay, returns,  
diasporas



## Help people on the move

Assisting people on the move

Emergency and humanitarian  
operations

# Capacity Building of Policymakers

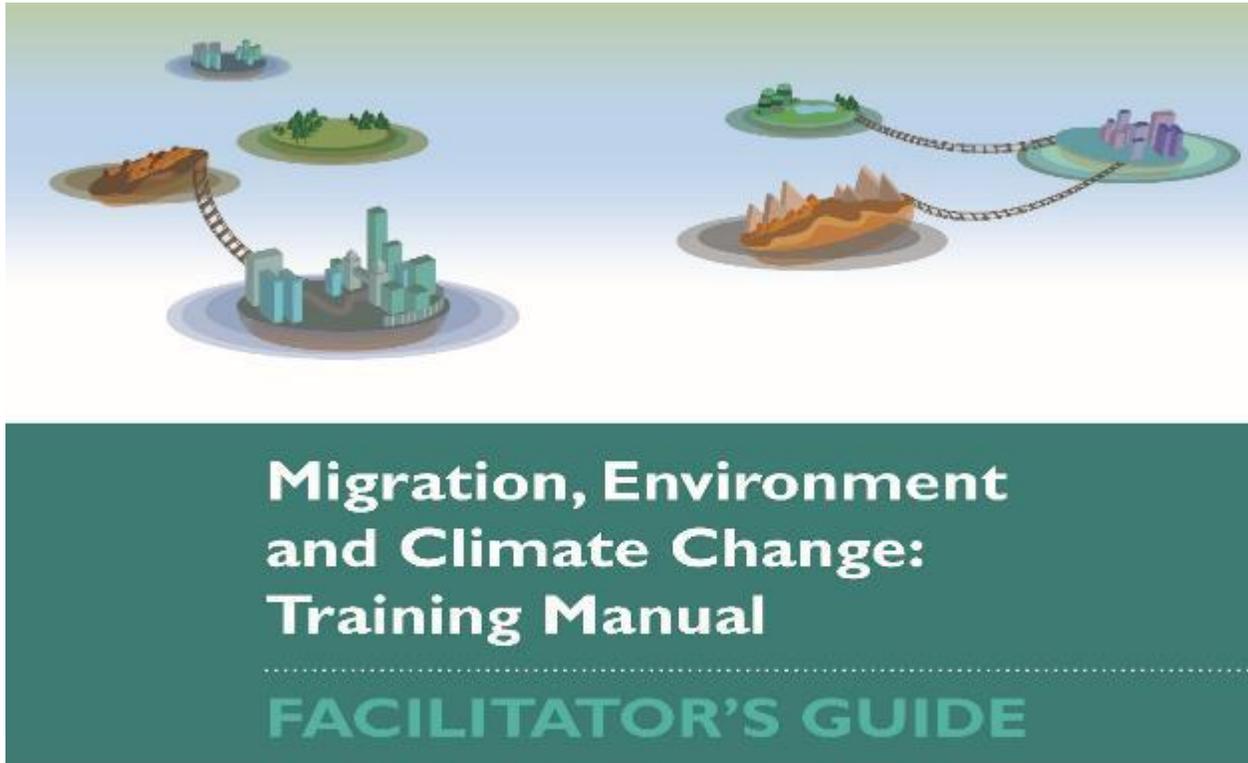
Climatic and environmental drivers pose new migration management challenges and require capacities to address them across policy areas



IOM PDD RCM Workshop for RCM Countries, 8-9 Aug 2017

<http://environmentalmigration.iom.int/training-workshops>

# MECC Training Manual



IOM Development Fund  
OFFICE OF EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN MIGRATION MANAGEMENT



IOM • OIM

This project is funded by the European Union, with the financial assistance of the IOM Development Fund.  
This project is implemented by the International Organization for Migration.

## Structure of the training modules

**Module 1: The Migration and Environment Nexus**

**Module 2: Disasters and Mobility**

**Module 3: Mobility and slow processes of environmental change**

**Module 4: Data Issues**

**Module 5: Legal Perspectives**

**Module 6: Regional Focus**

**Module 7: Integrating Mobility into National Climate Change Policies**

<https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/training-manual>



**IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICIES**

# From a political discussion to a migration policy and practice perspective



- The double sensitivity challenge
  - The history of the governance of migration
  - The role of migrants
- 
- Return, Reintegration, Relocation, Free movement protocols, Consular services, Visa waivers, Admission entry and stay, Family reunification, Work permits, temporary residence ...

Implications for  
European  
policies:

A wide range of  
policy domains





## ABOUT THE PORTAL

The *Environmental Migration Portal: Knowledge Platform on People on the Move in a Changing Climate* seeks to provide a one-stop service website to promote new research, information exchange and dialogue, intended to fill the existing data, research and knowledge gaps on the migration-environment nexus.

The *Environmental Migration Portal* has been created as part of the "Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Evidence for Policy (MECLEP)" project funded by the European Union.

[Read more](#)

## Follow us



## Environmental Migration Portal Newsletter

**NEW!** January Issue  
**NEW!** Spanish Issue - 1. Quarter 2016  
**NEW!** French Issue - 1. Quarter 2016

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<http://environmentalmigration.iom.int>