



INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGY ON MIGRATION, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE 2021–2030

For a comprehensive, evidence and rights-based approach to migration in the context of environmental degradation, climate change and disasters, for the benefit of migrants and societies.



IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in the meeting of operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

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Photo 2: Days after Typhoon Bopha left the Philippines, the scale of destruction only become clear with tens of thousands homeless and hundreds still missing.
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

| | | | |
|--------|--|-----------|---|
| CADRI | Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative | MiGOF | Migration Governance Framework |
| CCCM | Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster | MPTF | Multi-Partner Trust Fund |
| COP | Conference of the Parties | OHCHR | Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights |
| DCO | Development Coordination Office | PDD | Platform on Disaster Displacement |
| DRR | Disaster Risk Reduction | PIFS | Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat |
| DTM | Displacement Tracking Matrix | PRDD | Pacific Response to Disaster Displacement |
| GFMD | Global Forum on Migration and Development | SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals |
| HDPN | Humanitarian, Development and Peace Nexus | SIDS | Small islands developing States |
| HLP | High-Level Panel | SRF | Strategic Results Framework |
| HRC | Human Rights Council | UN | United Nations |
| IDM | International Dialogue on Migration | UNCCD | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification |
| IDMC | Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre | UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| IDPs | Internally Displaced Persons | UNDRR | United Nations office for Disaster Risk Reduction |
| IFRC | International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies | UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| IGAD | Intergovernmental Authority on Development | UNESCAP | United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific |
| ILO | International Labour Organization | UNFCCC | United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change |
| IMRF | International Migration Review Forum | UNGA | United Nations General Assembly |
| IOM | International Organization for Migration | UNHCR | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| LDCs | Least Developed Countries | UNSDG | United Nations Sustainable Development Group |
| MCOF | Migration Crisis Operational Framework | UNTFHS | United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security |
| MECC | Migration, Environment and Climate Change | WIM Excom | Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage |
| MECLEP | Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Evidence for Policy | WMO | World Meteorological Organization |
| MICIC | Migrants in Countries in Crisis Initiative | | |





1

**OUR MISSION
STATEMENT**

1. OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) seeks to promote a comprehensive, evidence and rights-based approach to migration in the context of environmental degradation, climate change and disasters,¹ for the benefit of migrants and societies.

IOM understands the links between migration, environment, and climate change through the lens of human security and is committed to put vulnerable people at the centre of its responses. When well managed migration becomes a safe and accessible choice, it can help people adapt to environmental and climate change pressures.

Faced with the growing challenges posed by climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters due to natural hazards, IOM's role, as the United Nations Migration Agency, and as the coordinator and Secretariat of the United Nations Network on Migration, is to support States, migrants, and other stakeholders to develop policies and practices that are evidence based, effective and innovative, with a focus on the well-being of migrants and societies.

Over the past decades, we have gained greater awareness, understanding and knowledge of the environmental and climate factors that drive human mobility and of their interaction with other drivers of migration. People are already moving because of the adverse effects of climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters due to natural hazards and will increasingly continue to do so. In this context of heightened consciousness, IOM is committed to support inclusive multilateral collaboration and develop innovative migration responses that can

make humane and orderly migration part of the solution to address the climate emergency.

Our vision is to support States in their efforts to achieve orderly, safe, responsible, and regular international migration² and to ensure that all people on the move and those internally displaced by the adverse impacts of climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters due to natural hazards, are assisted and protected.

In addition, we pledge to work in close collaboration with a wide range of partners whose mandate is to mitigate the adverse environmental and climate drivers that compel people to move, to address and reduce risks and vulnerabilities in migration, and to boost community resilience to avert, minimize and address displacement.

IOM initiated the development of this Institutional Strategy on Migration, Environment and Climate Change, 2021–2030 (called hereafter the Strategy) in 2020, to respond to major changes that have occurred in global, regional, national, and subnational policy discussions on migration, environment, and climate change and increasingly available evidence and knowledge.

Building on three decades of policy, research and operational work, this Strategy aims to guide IOM efforts to strengthen its capacity to develop and implement a comprehensive approach to migration in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards, in line with the objectives of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement

1 The Strategy will use the expression “climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters due to natural hazards” to refer to a wide array of adverse impacts linked to climate change, environmental degradation, natural hazards, predominantly associated with natural processes and phenomena. Text box 2 provides definitions of the terms utilized in the document.

2 The SDGs' central reference to migration is in Goal 10 “to reduce inequality within and among countries” , target 10.7 “to facilitate orderly, safe and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies” (<https://migrationdataportal.org/themes/sustainable-development-goals-sdgs-0>). The framing used in this Strategy combines the SDG target 10.7 language, with the language adopted in the Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration language (<https://migrationnetwork.un.org/>).

on Climate Change,³ the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration,⁴ the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction,⁵ and the Nansen Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change.⁶ Moreover, the Strategy emphasizes that IOM approach on this issue is anchored in human rights norms and principles, and relevant across the Humanitarian, Development and Peace Nexus (HDPN).⁷

The Strategy outlines how IOM will step up its support to national and local governments, regional fora, and other actors to provide migration policy advice, strengthen capacities and develop approaches that are migrant centred and inclusive, with a view to address human mobility challenges and seize opportunities related to climate and environmental changes. The Strategy reaffirms that meeting the needs of migrants, including displaced persons, and their communities are at the centre of IOM's work on migration, environment, and climate change.

In line with IOM's migration mandate,⁸ the Strategy pertains to both international and internal migration. It takes into account all types of migration in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards, such as displacement, rural to urban migration, pastoralism, seasonal migration and labour migration.⁹

In addition, the Strategy firmly puts migration management and migration governance at the centre of IOM approach to address climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters due to natural hazards. Policy areas such as border management, visas, entry and stay, consular services, evacuation, planned relocation, returns and diasporas engagement can all provide entry points to address challenges and seize opportunities.

Our work aims to help shift existing negative narratives around migration and support states to maximize the positive outcomes of migration. This Strategy therefore emphasizes IOM commitment to support the development of enabling environments that can help migrants, diasporas¹⁰ and their communities directly contribute to climate action and sustainable development in places of origin and destination.

Finally, our strategic approach is rooted in the notion that strengthening a virtuous evidence-policy-action cycle is key. We aim to ensure that available evidence and existing policy commitments are translated into operational activities and that vice versa, operational orientations feed policy and knowledge building work.

3 The Conference of the Parties, at its 21st session in Paris, in 2015 recognized the rights of migrants in its Preamble and created "a Task Force to develop recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change". The Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (Excom) is entrusted by the COP to operationalize Task Force on Displacement. IOM is a member of the Task Force, and the Strategy is aligned to the objective set in the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. Available at <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/WIMExCom/TFD>.

4 Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2018 73/195. Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, the Global Compact expresses the States collective commitment to improving cooperation on international migration. The Global Compact sets out our common understanding, shared responsibilities, and unity of purpose regarding migration, making it work for all.

5 The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction articulates the need to include migrants in disaster risk reduction and management work at all level in Paragraph 7: governments should engage with relevant stakeholders, including [...] migrants [...] in the design and implementation of policies, plans and standards (UNISDR 2015a, p. 10); Paragraph 27(h): empower local authorities, as appropriate, through regulatory and financial means to work and coordinate with [...] migrants in disaster risk management at local level (UNISDR 2015a, p. 18), and Paragraph 36(a)(vi): Migrants contribute to the resilience of communities and societies and their knowledge, skills and capacities can be useful in the design and implementation of disaster risk reduction (UNISDR 2015a, p. 23).

6 The *Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change* was endorsed by a global intergovernmental process in 2015 and conceptualizes a comprehensive approach to disaster displacement. Available at https://disasterdisplacement.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/EN_Protection_Agenda_Volume_1_low_res.pdf.

7 IOM adheres to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Recommendations on the HDPN, 2019.

8 Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration and is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. IOM is part of the United Nations system, as a related organization. Available at <https://publications.iom.int/books/migration-governance-framework>.

9 Further clarification and key relevant definitions are provided in Text box 2.

10 <https://diaspora.iom.int/>.





2

IOM STRATEGY ON MIGRATION, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

2. IOM STRATEGY ON MIGRATION, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The Strategy was developed through an extensive internal and external consultative process.¹¹ It outlines a high road scenario that identifies priorities to guide the development of IOM orientations over the next decade, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders, with a view to enhance the predictability, effectiveness, sustainability and timeliness of IOM's interventions.

2.1 A DEFINING CONTEMPORARY REALITY: MIGRATION IN THE CONTEXT OF CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION AND DISASTERS

Climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters due to natural hazards are profoundly reshaping contemporary migration patterns worldwide in diverse ways. Some people move in reaction to sudden onset events – such as flooding, droughts and extreme weather events that are becoming more frequent, intense, and harmful as a consequence of climate change and of environmental degradation. Slow onset events such as desertification, coastal erosion, sea level rise, ocean acidification, glacial retreat, melting permafrost, ecosystem loss and deforestation also influence directly and indirectly migration decisions. Non-climate related events and processes such as earthquakes and volcanic activity, and human-induced hazards such industrial pollution, factory explosions, fires and chemical spills nuclear can all shape the decision to migrate. All these processes can adversely impact the lives, livelihoods, habitat, physical and mental health, and the enjoyment of human rights of affected populations. Migration in turn can also impact the environment, ecosystems, and the availability of natural resources.

Migration in the context of climate change and environmental degradation is often multicausal. Most people migrate due to a combination of social, political, economic, environmental, and demographic drivers, all of which are and will be affected by climate

and environmental change. Looking to the future, some projections indicate that millions more people could be on the move because of the adverse effects of climate change. However, in many cases the most vulnerable are the populations who are trapped and do not have the means to or the opportunity to move out of degraded areas. Both mobility and immobility need to be addressed by robust policy options.

In such contexts, people engage in different forms of migration: within their countries or across borders. These movements can be temporary, for instance seasonal and circular migration, permanent or circular. They might occur from rural to urban areas and vice versa, as well as between rural locations. As cities become hotspots of environmental risk, migrants increasingly originate from urban areas too. These forms of migration exist on a continuum, from displacement to more voluntary forms of migration, and internal displacement in some contexts can also lead to international migration. The development of durable solutions is critical to address multipronged challenges.

The linkages between the adverse effects of climate change and human mobility are often complex and varied. For instance, increases in precipitation variability and drying associated with rising

11 The process of developing the Strategy was coordinated by the IOM Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC) Division, and supported by an interdepartmental Working Group, including the IOM Policy Hub that works across the Organization to foster migration policy knowledge management and facilitate strategic policy coordination. This document reflects inputs from IOM Headquarters, IOM regional and national field offices, IOM Member States, regional organizations, the UN System, academia, and civil society organizations. The Strategy's development benefited from a set of consultations facilitated by IOM, States, the European Union, the Group of Friends of the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) and consultations with a wide range partners such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) the Secretariat Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD), the Climate, Migration, and Displacement Platform (CMDP), the Mayors Migration Council, etc.

temperature adversely affect water availability, which, in turn, directly impacts nomadic and pastoralist movements. The physical loss of land, more frequent recurrence of extreme weather events and severe

deterioration in habitat, can impede return after displacement. In some cases, planned relocation can become the last resort strategy to address observed climate impacts and projected changes in risks.

2.2 TRANSFORMATIVE POLICY CHANGES AND NEW GLOBAL COMMITMENTS

Significant changes have occurred over the past years in terms of global processes of relevance to migration, environment, and climate change. This Strategy is aligned with the principles outlined in the main frameworks pertaining to the issue. This includes the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development that features migration and mobility of people explicitly, a remarkable development considering that the topic was absent from the Millennium Development Goals.¹²

The 2010 Cancún Agreement,¹³ followed by the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the work undertaken under the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC), including the recommendations of the UNFCCC Taskforce on Displacement (Katowice 10/24, 2018) were major turning points that anchored human mobility into the climate negotiated texts.

In 2018, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration¹⁴ highlighted the need to consider the impacts of “natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation” on international migration under its Objective 2 on minimizing adverse drivers of migration, and under Objective 5 on enhancing availability and flexibility of pathways for regular

migration. The Global Compact for Migration also called for the integration of displacement considerations into disaster preparedness strategies.

Additionally, the UN Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience,¹⁵ the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,¹⁶ the Agenda for Humanity,¹⁷ the New Urban Agenda,¹⁸ the Decision 22/COP.14 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),¹⁹ the Human Rights Council Resolution A/HRC/RES/35/20,²⁰ the UNGA Resolution on Protection of Migrants (A/RES/74/148)²¹ the Nansen Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change,²² the discussions conducted under the [UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement \(HLP on IDPs\)](#)²³ all recognize climate change and disasters as important drivers of human mobility. These frameworks are all mutually reinforcing, and taken together, they provide a comprehensive set of principles for action on migration, climate change and the environment.

IOM endorsed a commitment on a New Way of Working at the World Humanitarian Summit in September 2016, that outlines the necessity to

12 See Annex 2 New global policy commitments.

13 IOM follows the commitments made under Decision 1/CP.16 The Cancun Agreements: Outcome of the work of the AdHoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention, Paragraph 14 f on “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”.

14 See Annex 2 New global policy commitments.

15 www.preventionweb.net/files/33703_actionplanweb14.06cs1.pdf.

16 www.undrr.org/publication/sendai-framework-disaster-risk-reduction-2015-2030.

17 <https://agendaforhumanity.org/>.

18 <https://habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/>.

19 Decision 22/COP.14 Follow-up on the positive role that measures taken under the Convention can play to address desertification/landdegradation and drought as one of the drivers that cause migration, UNCCD 2019.

20 <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G17/184/52/PDF/G1718452.pdf?OpenElement>.

21 <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/74/148>.

22 <https://disasterdisplacement.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/PROTECTION-AGENDA-VOLUME-1.pdf>.

23 www.un.org/internal-displacement-panel/.

meet people's immediate humanitarian needs while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability. Consequently, this Strategy seeks to promote the integration of long-term climate and environmental perspectives across IOM's crisis responses. IOM is co-chairing the UN Partnership on the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI) with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), a global partnership composed of 20 UN organizations

working towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by providing countries with capacity development services to help them reduce climate and disaster risk within the HDPN framework.²⁴

Through this Strategy, IOM intends to enhance its support to States who seek to implement the principles outlined in relevant global frameworks.

2.3 IOM COMMITMENTS AS A UN-RELATED ORGANIZATION AND RELEVANT INTERNAL FRAMEWORKS

This Strategy also seeks to outline strategic opportunities for IOM to strengthen its global role, notably through a commitment to a better planned and effective approach on migration, environment and climate change that will allow IOM to meet its responsibilities towards States, migrants and the international community.

IOM's role is anchored in the United Nations system, including through its role as the Coordinator of the United Nations Network on Migration²⁵ and the host of its Secretariat. IOM's role in the UN system can only be enhanced through stronger partnerships with other UN entities, States, civil society and other stakeholders, considering the wide array of expertise needed to address the migration, environment and climate change nexus. In that respect, this Strategy aims to guide IOM's efforts to lead on and meaningfully contribute to the work of the UN system on migration, environment, and climate change. This includes leading the thematic workstream focusing on migration and climate change launched by the UN Migration Network in 2021, contributing to the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) and its Progress Declaration with concrete recommendations to maximize the next Global Compact for Migration implementation four-year cycle, and supporting the development of innovative joint programmes that could be financed by the Start-Up Fund for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (or Migration

MPTF), the UN financing mechanism established to assist States in their national implementation of the Global Compact.

IOM is a full member of the United Nations country teams, United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and participates in all six Regional UNSDG Teams, with a view to better connect its activities to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

IOM fully supports the UN commitments on climate change outlined in the Common Core Principles for a UN System-wide Approach to Climate Action²⁶ and the UN System Strategic Approach on Climate Change Action.²⁷ These two documents include references related to climate change, migration, displacement and planned relocation. They represent a unifying vision for collaborative UN action on climate change and aim to ensure coherent joint approach to the UN's country-level work on climate change.

IOM is committed to greater coherence within its internal institutional architecture. Therefore, this Strategy is anchored in IOM's existing institutional frameworks and seeks to contribute to forthcoming ones. It is part of a set of new institutional strategic documents²⁸ requested by the IOM Director General to support the implementation of the IOM

24 www.cadri.net/.

25 https://migrationnetwork.un.org/sites/default/files/docs/un_network_on_migration_tor_1_0.pdf.

26 The Common Core Principles for a UN System-Wide Approach to Climate Change Action.

27 https://unsceb.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/CEB_2017_4_Add1.pdf.

28 See Annex 1: Existing institutional frameworks.

Strategic Vision 2019–2023,²⁹ including the IOM Institutional Strategy on Migration and Sustainable Development,³⁰ the IOM Environmental Sustainability Strategy,³¹ the IOM Migration Data Strategy,³² the IOM Strategy on Legal Identity. In 2020, IOM also developed nine new regional strategies and a continental strategy for Africa³³ that all make direct and significant references to addressing migration in the context of climate change and environmental degradation.

This Strategy is aligned with the IOM Strategic Results Framework (SRF) that operationalizes the IOM Strategic Vision and integrates commitments from the IOM Migration Governance Framework, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

This Strategy benefitted from the results of the “Evaluation of IOM’s Institutional Response to Address Migration, Environment and Climate Change Nexus”,³⁴ completed in May 2021. This exercise has provided crucial insights and recommendations

that fed into the development of this Strategy. This thematic Evaluation has developed a Theory of Change that places migrants at the centre of IOM’s work on migration, environment, and climate change. The evaluation analyses how IOM’s inputs at international, regional, national and local level bring transformational changes. Results from the Evaluation fed into the framing and reformulation of the three institutional Strategic Objectives and helped shape the four Priority Areas of Engagement outlined in this document, in line with IOM’s overall mandate. The Evaluation also guided the selection of targeted priority actions, including an emphasis on translating global work into national outputs, enhancing collaboration with civil society and developing a stronger participative approach including migrants and displaced people.

Finally, this Strategy seeks to promote and accelerate cultural changes within the Organization so that IOM is better equipped to discharge its responsibilities within the UN System.

2.4 A NEW ERA FOR HUMAN MOBILITY

In an era characterized by high levels of human mobility, migration has become essential to the very functioning of our interconnected societies. The COVID-19 pandemic has served as a stark reminder that, whenever mobility is constrained, migrants and other community members in places of origin, transit and destination become more likely to suffer unemployment, impoverishment, insecurity and exposure to risks, including health threats. Restricted mobility can also result in more people living in hazardous locations, in conditions of higher vulnerability to crises, of both human-made and environmental origin.

Major current disruptors, including those related to climate change and environmental degradation,

health, security and sustainable development, can only be addressed through integrated approaches. To be efficient, such approaches should coherently articulate separate but connected dimensions, such as enhanced climate action, including necessary adaptation and mitigation measures, the promotion of green transition measures, public health considerations and the facilitation of safe and dignified migration. Integrated approaches will be key to successfully recover from the COVID-19 crisis and reduce the potential impacts of future crises.

This Strategy emphasizes IOM’s commitment to systematically adopt integrated approaches whenever possible.

29 <https://publications.iom.int/books/strategic-vision-setting-course-iom>.

30 <https://publications.iom.int/books/iom-institutional-strategy-migration-and-sustainable-development>.

31 Please refer to Box 1 on IOM institutional Strategy on Environmental sustainability.

32 <https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/aide-memoire-iom-migration-data-strategy.pdf>.

33 See Annex 8 Existing Institutional frameworks for all Regional Strategies, the African Continental Strategy and all related links.

34 Evaluation of IOM’s Institutional Response to Address Migration, Environment and Climate Change Nexus, May 2021, Office of the Inspector General (IOM) https://evaluation.iom.int/sites/evaluation/files/docs/resources/Final%20Report_MECC%20Evaluation_May%202021_1.pdf.





3

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

3. OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

THIS STRATEGY RESTS ON THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES

- 1 Committing to a rights-based approach
- 2 Promoting an innovative and effective approach to migration governance and practice
- 3 Adopting a gender responsive approach
- 4 Implementing a migrant-centred and inclusive approach to enhance positive outcomes
- 5 Promoting a human security approach
- 6 Supporting policy coherence and enhancing partnerships

3.1 COMMITTING TO A RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH

IOM aims to systematically promote a rights-based approach to addressing climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards, in line with the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the Global Compact for Migration and other related instruments. The enjoyment of human rights by migrants and their communities is directly affected by the adverse effects of climate change and environmental degradation throughout the migration cycle, in places of origin, transit and destination. Climate change impacts are likely to exacerbate underlying causes of vulnerability, especially for those already facing societal inequality because of their gender, age, class, indigeneity and/or

disability. States have the duty to respect, protect and fulfill the rights of all individuals under their jurisdiction. Protecting the rights of those adversely affected by climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards, including migrants, should therefore be prioritized. IOM encourages the full use of all existing bodies of laws and available instruments (human rights, humanitarian law, refugee law, international labour standards, instruments on internal displacement environmental and disaster law, migration law, etc.). Whenever possible, an inclusive approach that privileges migrants' participation and gives a voice to migrants should be promoted.

3.2 PROMOTING AN INNOVATIVE AND EFFECTIVE APPROACH TO MIGRATION GOVERNANCE AND PRACTICE

IOM considers that contemporary migration governance and practice need to integrate climate change and environmental considerations to be innovative, relevant and effective in a changing world. This reflects the overall SDG architecture, from SDG 10.7 “facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”, to SDG target 13.2 on “integrating climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning” and throughout relevant goals such as SDG 6 on Clean Water and

Sanitation, SDG 7 on Affordable and Clean Energy and SDG 15 on Life on Land. Migration has been, and always will be, a mechanism that people rely on to build resilience and cope with shocks, including those linked to environmental change. Existing migration management systems should be leveraged to provide assistance and protection to people on the move in a changing climate, including those moving or displaced in crisis contexts. Innovative knowledge and technology resulting from European Union-funded research and innovation on migration and on border management will also be exploited.³⁵

3.3 ADOPTING A GENDER RESPONSIVE APPROACH

Vulnerability to climate and environmental stressors is shaped by gender roles and responsibilities. Climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards affect men, women, girls, boys and people of all genders in different ways, yet sex- and gender-disaggregated data and information is scarce. Gender is a key analytical tool when developing adequate and durable responses to migration that are mindful of differentiated needs and impacts.

Gender equality must be mainstreamed throughout IOM’s whole spectrum of activities to ensure effective and fair implementation on the ground that do not exacerbate existing inequalities and vulnerabilities or create new ones, notably for female migrants, women and girls in displacement settings or remaining in the country or region of origin. Our gender approach also takes into consideration the potential for empowerment and positive outcomes of migration for women and men.

3.4 IMPLEMENTING A MIGRANT-CENTRED AND INCLUSIVE APPROACH TO ENHANCE POSITIVE OUTCOMES

Well-managed migration can contribute positively to all aspects of economic, environmental, and social development and is key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). IOM strongly believes that migrants, diasporas, sending and receiving communities are essential actors who can help address current and future sustainable development challenges and calls for a whole-of-society approach. This is in line with the vision outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development³⁶ – echoed in IOM’s Institutional Strategy on Migration and Sustainable Development. It recognizes the positive contributions of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development, and encourages international cooperation to ensure orderly, safe, responsible and regular migration and mobility of people that fully respects the human rights of migrants, and other displaced persons and promote their humane treatment, regardless of their legal status.

35 www.euresearch.ch/en/horizon-europe-17.html.

36 Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015 [without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.1)] 70/1. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, paragraph 29.

3.5 PROMOTING A HUMAN SECURITY APPROACH

IOM understands the links between migration, environment, and climate change through the wide lens of human security³⁷ and is committed to put vulnerable people at the centre of its responses. The 2030 Agenda recalls that adopting a human security approach is crucial to achieve sustainable development. Food security, water security, environmental security and livelihood security are all affected by climate impacts and can influence mobility patterns. Climate impacts can also intersect with other phenomena

such as shrinking natural resources and conflicts along ethnic lines and other group interests. The combined effects of climate change and conflict also result in compounded risks for communities already under severe stress and could lead to protracted displacement and increased humanitarian needs. These situations call for longer-term development, adaptation and disaster risk reduction policies that strengthen the resilience of migrants and communities and ensure durable solutions.

3.6 SUPPORTING POLICY COHERENCE AND ENHANCING PARTNERSHIPS

The development of this Strategy is rooted in a wide understanding of the issues at stake and the belief that a comprehensive approach is necessary to respond to the immense variety of migration challenges and opportunities linked to climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters due to natural hazards. It has become evident that the migration, environment and climate change linkages are relevant to a wide range of policies and practices, including but not limited to disaster risk reduction, climate action, urban issues, conflict prevention, health, sustainable development and humanitarian response.

Migration cannot be tackled in isolation from other policy areas.

This Strategy first aims to support the integration of climate change and environmental concerns into migration policies and practice, and secondly to support the inclusion of migration, displacement, and all forms of mobility into climate and environmental policies and practices. Finally, the strategy also seeks

to promote coherence across all policy domains by mainstreaming migration, climate change and environmental considerations throughout other relevant agendas.

Given the cross-cutting nature of migration in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters, IOM collaborates with a broad range of partners in particular its sister agency, UNHCR, the Rio Conventions, and environmental, development and disaster risk reduction agencies, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). Partnerships are at the heart of IOM action, including cooperation with financial institutions, academic organizations and think tanks, civil society, State-led platforms, multi-stakeholder networks, media, migrant and diaspora organizations and representatives of the affected populations. Partnerships are developed with global, regional, national and subnational actors.

37 IOM [Glossary on Migration](#); Human security concerns the right of people to live in freedom and dignity, free from poverty and despair and promotes the protection of their physical safety, economic and social well-being and human rights. It includes the right of all individuals, vulnerable people in particular, to live free from fear and free from want, with an equal opportunity to enjoy all their rights and fully develop their human potential. *Source:* Adapted from United Nations General Assembly, Follow-up to Paragraph 143 on Human Security of the 2005 World Summit Outcome (25 October 2012) UN Doc. A/RES/66/290, para. 3(a).



4

**OUR HIGH ROAD
SCENARIO FOR
THE NEXT DECADE**

4. OUR HIGH ROAD SCENARIO FOR THE NEXT DECADE

4.1 OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The overall goal of this Strategy is to define how IOM can, over the next decade develop and implement a comprehensive, evidence-based and rights-based approach to migration in the context of climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters due to natural hazards for the benefit of migrants and societies. This can only be achieved by working in partnership with migrants and communities, regional fora, national, and local governments, the United Nations system and a wide range of other intergovernmental, non-governmental and private sector actors.

This Strategy therefore formulates three **Strategic Objectives** to achieve this goal. The three Strategic Objectives directly derive from the knowledge and expertise acquired by the Organization in the past three decades.³⁸ They build upon IOM's policy and operational work and stem from the three institutional objectives³⁹ initially presented at IOM Governing Bodies in 2007, 2008 and 2009⁴⁰ and at the IOM International Dialogue on Migration (IDM).⁴¹ These three objectives have been relayed through key IOM publications⁴² and submitted to the UNFCCC and to the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and

Damage (WIM Excom) associated with Climate Change Impacts.⁴³

To reach these objectives, the Strategy identifies four **Priority Areas of Engagement** where the Organization is already performing well or where there is scope to build on existing successes to enhance effectiveness and maximize resources. Both Strategic Objectives and Priority Areas of Engagement are aligned with the three pillars of the IOM Director General's Strategic Vision: resilience, mobility and governance.

The relevance of the three Strategic Objectives has now been widely acknowledged outside IOM, including by key partners such as the PDD. Throughout the development of the Strategy, the consultation process, and the Evaluation of IOM's Institutional Response to Address the Migration, Environment and Climate Change, stakeholders have reaffirmed the continuing relevance of this institutional framing.

The original institutional objectives have been slightly reformulated and turned into the following three Strategic Objectives.

38 See as examples Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Assessing the Evidence, IOM, 2009; Compendium of IOM's Activities in Migration, Climate Change and the Environment (2009); Compendium of IOM Activities in Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, IOM, 2013; IOM Outlook on Migration, Environment and Climate Change, IOM 2014; IOM's Engagement in Migration Environment and Climate Change, IOM, 2018.

39 "The Organization pursues three broad objectives in managing environmental migration, intervening at each stage of the migration cycle: To minimize forced and unmanaged migration as much as possible; Where forced migration does occur, to ensure assistance and protection for those affected and to seek durable solutions; and To facilitate the role of migration as an adaptation strategy to climate change". IOM, 2011. International Dialogue on Migration, No 18 - *Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration*.

40 Discussion Note: Migration and the Environment MC/INF/288 (2007); Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance SCPF/21 (2008) Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (2008), see Annex IOM key documents.

41 International Dialogue on Migration, No 10 - *Expert Seminar: Migration and the Environment*, IOM 2008; International Dialogue on Migration, No 18 - *Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration*, IOM 2012; International Dialogue on Migration, No 31 - *Accelerating integrated action on sustainable development: migration, the environment and climate change*, IOM 2021.

42 *Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Assessing the Evidence*, IOM, 2009; *Compendium of IOM's Activities in Migration, Climate Change and the Environment*, IOM, 2009; *IOM Outlook on Migration, Environment and Climate Change*, IOM 2014; IOM's Engagement in Migration Environment and Climate Change, IOM 2018.

43 Warsaw International Mechanism Executive Committee call for submission Action Area 6: Migration, Displacement and Human Mobility Submission from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), 2016.

4.1.1 Strategic Objective 1

“We develop solutions for people to move.”

Managing migration in the context of climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters due to natural hazards.

In line with its migration mandate and role as coordinator and Secretariat of the United Nations Network on Migration, IOM will promote approaches that facilitate orderly, safe, responsible, and regular migration in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards. IOM will support the development and implementation of innovative migration policies and practices, including planned relocation, as a last resort. IOM will seek to develop solutions that leverage the potential of migration for climate change adaptation and risk reduction and enhance the contributions of migrants, diasporas and communities to climate action and resilience building.

4.1.2 Strategic Objective 2

“We develop solutions for people on the move.”

Assisting and protecting migrants and displaced persons in the context of climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters due to natural hazards.

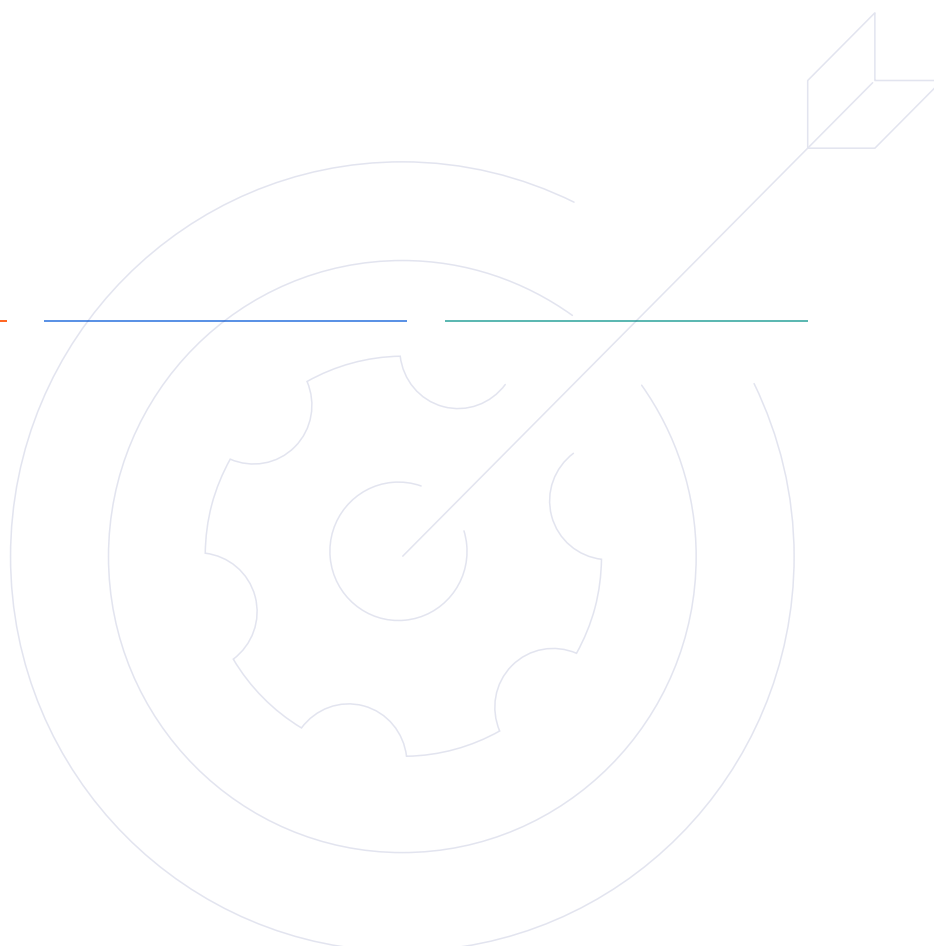
IOM will seek to address the assistance and protection needs of migrants and displaced persons, as well as address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration in the context of climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters due to natural hazards. IOM will support the development and implementation of anticipatory actions, life-saving aid, inclusive and rights-based approaches that ensure durable solutions, across the HDPN.

4.1.3 Strategic Objective 3

“We develop solutions for people to stay.”

Making migration a choice by building resilience and addressing the adverse climatic and environmental drivers that compel people to move.

In collaboration with partners, IOM will support efforts that aim to avert migration out of necessity, including displacement, and address the needs of trapped and immobile populations. IOM will engage in partnerships to develop and implement joint approaches that analyse and address environmental drivers that compel people to move, accelerate climate action, reduce risk, build resilience, and enhance adaptive capacities.



4.2 OUR PRIORITY AREAS OF ENGAGEMENT

The following section outlines **four Priority Areas of Engagement** to reach the **Strategic Objectives**. Each of the Priority Areas is cross-cutting to the three Strategic Objectives. For each Priority Area, non-exhaustive **Targeted Priority Actions** are proposed to guide future implementation.

A **Strategy Guidance Paper** will be developed to further translate the Strategic Objectives and Priority Areas of Engagement into concrete activities with expected outcomes at different levels.⁴⁴

Impacts of IOM's and partner activities developed based on this Strategy will be reported against the IOM Strategic Results Framework (SRF).

1 IOM migration policy role – As the leading intergovernmental migration agency, IOM will support States and other players to develop innovative rights-based migration policies and practices that integrate issues of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards.

3 IOM knowledge provider role – As a leading knowledge provider, IOM will strengthen evidence-based policy and operational approaches to address migration in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards, through the production, analysis and dissemination of relevant data and knowledge.

2 IOM operational role – As a leading operational actor, IOM will support States and other players to operationalize responses to migration and displacement in the context of environmental degradation, climate change and disasters across the HDPN.

4 IOM convening role – As a leading convener, IOM will promote policy coherence and inclusive partnerships to mainstream the inclusion of migration and displacement considerations in climate change, environment, disaster and other relevant agendas.

Priority Area of Engagement 1

IOM migration policy role – As the leading intergovernmental migration agency, IOM will support States and other players to develop innovative rights-based migration policies and practices that integrate issues of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards.

As highlighted in IOM Strategic Vision 2019–2023, IOM has assumed a global leadership on migration in the last decade. As a result, States are increasingly requesting IOM support to respond more effectively to migration dynamics, challenges and opportunities and ensure the well-being of an ever more diverse population of migrants and communities. The

Organization is therefore a key source of advice on migration policies and practice. Building on these existing strengths and our extensive experience, we want to encourage innovative thinking on how migration policies and practice can evolve to better address the impacts of climate and environmental change on human mobility. When necessary, and

⁴⁴ The Strategy Guidance Paper and Work Plan will be developed as a follow up to the publication of the Strategy.

in close coordination with the concerned States, we want to support the review and development of specialized migration policy instruments that respond to challenges and opportunities posed by

environmental and climate drivers. We will leverage the convening power of the UN Network on Migration to achieve this goal.

Targeted priority actions will include:

- a. **Supporting the mainstreaming of climate and environmental concerns in national and subnational migration and displacement policy frameworks** IOM will provide technical expertise, capacity development activities and targeted project initiatives to support States, local governments and relevant actors to integrate climate change and environmental issues in national and local migration and displacement policy and practice. For States that have adopted the Global Compact for Migration, our technical support will contribute to the implementation of Global Compact commitments in coordination with members of the United Nations Network on Migration. This will include ensuring these commitments are reflected across sectors – for example, rural development and sustainable food systems, conflict prevention, health and other sectors – and at different levels of governance.
- b. **Supporting the integration of climate and environmental considerations in regional migration policy processes**
IOM will provide technical expertise and policy guidance to support the inclusion of climate and environmental concerns in existing regional migration policy discussions, such as the Regional Consultative Processes on Migration and regional intergovernmental discussions related to regional free movement protocols. In partnership with national authorities, regional organizations, platforms and processes and with a wide range of other partners will also support States in their activities aiming at the development of new regional frameworks that specifically seek to address the migration, environment and climate change and displacement due to natural hazards.
- c. **Supporting the development of specialized rights-based approaches, policies and laws on migration, climate change and the environment**
IOM will provide expertise, capacity development activities and targeted project initiatives to support States to develop migration policies that are dedicated to addressing environmental and climate challenges and opportunities. The Organization will also support States who seek to review existing migration legal provisions or develop new policies and laws accordingly.
- d. **Enhancing capacity development of policymakers**
IOM will enhance our support to capacity development of policymakers on migration and displacement in the context of climate change, with a focus on countries most vulnerable to climate change. IOM will build upon our extensive partnerships, experience in this area and our existing tools.⁴⁵ Capacity development efforts will focus on supporting national policymakers to enhance existing national policy frameworks, for instance on internal displacement, labour migration, evacuation, pastoralism and planned relocation, through the mainstreaming of migration, environment and climate change concerns across all relevant national policy areas and a whole-of-society approach. Capacity development efforts will also include regional players and local governments who are instrumental in leading change on the ground, by encouraging national policy frameworks to be developed in partnership with regional actors and local governments and by supporting local government-led policymaking processes.⁴⁶

45 As an example, the [Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Training Manual \(Facilitators' Guide\)](#).

46 As an example, local governments are advising and identifying partnership opportunities with the Mayors Migration Council–C40 Cities Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration.

Priority Area of Engagement 2

IOM operational role – As a leading operational actor, IOM will support States and other players to operationalize responses to migration and displacement in the context of environmental degradation, climate change and disasters, across the HDPN.

The worsening impacts of climate and environmental change are creating additional needs, especially in countries most vulnerable to climate impacts. Against this backdrop, we are committed to strengthen our operational support to our Member States. IOM implements a vast portfolio of activities related to migration and displacement in the context of climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters due to natural hazards, in coordination with other actors in the international system and a wide range of partners. We work across the HDPN to address

the environmental and climate factors that compel people to leave their places of residence, build the resilience of individuals and communities and provide effective and timely humanitarian and recovery assistance, including to internally displaced persons (IDPs). We also support migration management responses to climate change and environmental impacts, with a strong focus on highlighting the contributions of migrants towards achieving the SDGs and the positive outcomes of migration.

Targeted priority actions will include:

a. Developing an organization-wide climate lens across IOM on evidence, policy and operational activities

IOM is committed to promoting a new institutional vision where climate and environmental dimensions are systematically integrated across our policy and operational work. The Organization will strive to better understand how climate and environmental drivers impact our activities across the HDPN or vice versa. Moreover, we will actively promote the development of integrated activities that leverage the expertise of different parts of the Organization and connect our migration and climate change adaptation and mitigation work to other areas, such as migration management, health, migration and development, diaspora engagement, diversity, inclusion and social cohesion, border management, humanitarian response and disaster risk reduction.

b. Supporting States and other authorities to assist and protect people moving in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards change through a rights-based approach

IOM will provide enhanced operational support to governments and other actors who provide direct assistance people affected by their movement, in order to address all forms of human mobility in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards, including evacuations, returns, seasonal migration,

pastoralist movements, labour migration and planned relocations, and in full respect of the human rights of individuals and communities involved.

c. Developing comprehensive responses to displacement in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards

IOM will enhance our support to States and other actors to manage the movement of populations displaced in the context of disasters and extreme environmental degradation, whether within their own country or across borders. In particular, we will support the implementation of available instruments such as the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda,⁴⁷ and Global Compact for Migration Objective 5, building on IOM's role as the lead agency of the Global Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster in countries affected by disasters and IOM's engagement in joint initiatives such as the implementation of the UN Plan of Action on disaster risk reduction (DRR) for Resilience, and of the inter-agency Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI).

d. Supporting cities and local governments to address migration, environment and climate change

IOM will partner with cities and local governments and networks of local governments to better understand and address the linkages between

⁴⁷ The Nansen Initiative, Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change, 2015.

migration, rapid urbanization, the impacts of climate change, notably on rural livelihoods and in peri-urban areas, city planning and environmental sustainability at the city level. Considering the rapidly increasing rates of urbanization and rural to urban migration, priority needs to be put on urban environmental and climate smart sustainability. This area has been identified as a clear implementation gap where IOM can add value, in collaboration with other relevant actors.⁴⁸

e. Addressing the impacts of slow onset processes and environmental degradation on migration

IOM will develop innovative activities that specifically focus on improving the understanding of and addressing the migration-related impacts of slow-onset processes including desertification, sea level rise, coastal erosion, glacial retreat, melting permafrost, ocean acidification, extreme heat, shifting precipitations, ecosystem and biodiversity losses and related resource scarcity in vulnerable countries. This includes support to the development of safe and regular migration pathways in line with Objective 5 of the Global Compact for Migration to establish innovative migration practices and tools that specifically build on our understanding of migration trends and patterns due to slow onset processes.

f. Addressing long-term impacts of migration in a changing climate

IOM will provide enhanced operational support to governments to address the longer-term implications of people's movements through comprehensive return and reintegration, integration, resettlement work that supports the resilience of migrants and communities of origin and destination.

g. Supporting the positive contributions of migrants, diasporas and communities to climate action and sustainable development

IOM will support activities that enable migrants, diasporas and communities to contribute meaningfully to climate action, with a focus on green jobs, agroecology, reforestation, clean energy, sustainable construction, circular economy, sustainable food systems, water, land and waste management, disaster risk reduction, preparedness and resilience building in communities of origin and destination. These approaches will support the achievement of the SDGs and contribute to more balanced and objective narratives on migration and migrants' contributions.

Priority Area of Engagement 3

IOM knowledge provider role – As a leading knowledge provider, IOM will strengthen evidence-based policy and operational approaches to address migration in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards, through the production, analysis and dissemination of relevant data and knowledge.

IOM has developed a wealth of specialized knowledge and evidence on migration, environment, and climate change, with over 200 publications analysing how climate and environmental impacts influence migration across the globe. The Organization has also acquired programmatic experience from all regions of the world that can inform the global knowledge base, support the development of evidence-based policymaking and the implementation of relevant programmes. These activities generate a vast amount of data as well as implicit knowledge and expertise that is not yet fully utilized and leveraged, notably due to the lack of

systematic evaluation processes that would allow the Organization to fully assess the impacts of its activities, draw lessons learned and apply insights gained. As outlined in the IOM Strategic Vision, IOM needs to strengthen its ability to draw data, knowledge and experience from the field, analyse and apply the results, to reach its full potential as a policy actor and as a source of authoritative information on migration. In addition, IOM will continue to support and enhance the comprehensive existing research and analysis work conducted within the Organization to improve understanding of the issues at stake and inform policies

⁴⁸ For instance, IOM will work closely with the Mayors Migration Council-C40 Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration, one of the relevant entry points to identify needs and priorities from city government partners.

and programmatic activities, while ensuring synergies with available and ongoing research and analysis work conducted at international and regional levels, seizing

opportunities such as the European Horizon 2020 or performed by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission.

Targeted priority actions will include:

a. Generating new knowledge and evidence through joint approaches

IOM will work with relevant institutions and knowledge providers to collect and analyse data and evidence that can advance understanding on the complex interlinkages between migration, environment and climate change. Through enhanced partnerships, including with the private sector, we will prioritize research and analysis related to underexplored issues, such as the connections between migration, climate change and sustainable development, protection, conflict, security, demography, urbanization and resource management, including through a gender perspective. We will devote particular attention to countries and regions most vulnerable to climate change in particular small islands developing States (SIDSs), Landlocked Developing Countries, Least Developed Countries (LDCs), mountain regions, low lying deltas, drylands and wetlands. We will build upon our existing extensive work in global data and knowledge production, notably the research and analysis efforts of IOM'S Migration Research Division, the Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) and the Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC) Division.

b. Producing context-specific data and knowledge to fill existing gaps

IOM will produce, analyse and share contextualized research outputs and data on migration and displacement trends associated with climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards, disaggregated by gender, vulnerabilities and age. In particular, the Organization will focus on filling existing knowledge gaps, including those related to slow onset drivers of migration and migration corridors in vulnerable countries. We will continue and enhance our migration forecasting

and scenarios work, including at the local level, and our efforts to better connect already available data sets, such as on victims of trafficking. To do so, we will leverage our data field collection work linked to the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)⁴⁹ and its various tools such as the IOM Transhumance Tracking Tool,⁵⁰ and the analysis work conducted by our global, regional and national offices worldwide. We will also invest in conducting more systematic evaluations of our activities at national and regional levels and drawing lessons learned from field programmes to feed back into policy and enhance evidence.

c. Enhancing global knowledge management efforts

We will promote the consolidation and sharing of the existing evidence base – including through the IOM Environmental Migration Portal,⁵¹ the IOM Global Migration Data Portal,⁵² the United Nations Migration Network Knowledge Hub,⁵³ dedicated thematic chapters in IOM's biennial flagship publication, the World Migration Report, and specialized publications. We will also continue to strengthen our collaboration with academic partners and will contribute to global debates on research and analysis on migration, environment and climate change, in order to further improve the dissemination of IOM's expertise and expand our role as a knowledge provider.

d. Strengthening understanding with better data and analysis on the links between the migration, environmental and climate change nexus and security and conflict issues

We will strengthen evidence-based research and analysis to generate new data and knowledge on the interplay between climate change, environmental degradation, disasters, security and conflict. We want to enhance current knowledge on how the

49 Human Mobility in the Context of Environmental and Climate Change - Assessing current and recommended practices for analysis within DTM (2020).

50 <https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/ch10-transhumance-tracking-tool.pdf>.

51 <https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/>.

52 <https://gmdac.iom.int/global-migration-data-portal>.

53 <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/hub>.

combined effects of climate change and instability can result in compounded risks for communities and lead to displacement, with a view to inform the development of tailored policies to mitigate these risks. We will also bring migration and displacement knowledge into existing initiatives such as the UN Climate Security Mechanism on climate-related security risks.

e. Supporting national governments and other stakeholders to collect and analyse data

IOM will support governments and other stakeholders such as networks of researchers to develop their capacity to better collect data and analyse available information across the board. Existing data sources generated by different national institutions or at the regional level could be invaluable to advance understanding and knowledge, yet they often remain underutilized.

f. Enhancing evidence-based approaches on preparedness, early action and humanitarian response to address and resolve displacement in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards

Building on existing operational knowledge and relevant data, we will strengthen IOM's leadership role in integrating climate and environmental mobility dimensions within international humanitarian response frameworks, to enable coherent and well-coordinated analysis, strategic planning, policy guidance, operations and advocacy to improve the situation of affected people and communities. We will strengthen data availability to support humanitarian responses to internal displacement linked to climate shocks and disasters, including through the IOM DTM, in full compliance with IOM's Data Protection Principles.

Priority Area of Engagement 4

IOM convening role – As a leading convener, IOM will promote policy coherence and inclusive partnerships to mainstream the inclusion of migration and displacement considerations in the climate change, environment, disaster and other relevant agendas.

IOM has been particularly successful in providing technical support to intergovernmental policy discussions at global and regional levels on climate change, environment and desertification. It has already invested significant resources in developing and sharing technical expertise that shaped global and regional agendas in other domains such as oceans, water, ecosystems, biodiversity and energy.

Beyond the climate and environment agendas, IOM has also worked at bringing an understanding of the linkages between migration, environment and climate change in other domains such as disaster management, humanitarian and crisis response, health, food, youth, gender, or urban issues. As a result, IOM has been instrumental in the development of global and regional policy principles and frameworks.⁵⁴

Ten years after the last IDM session dedicated to the emerging synergies between migration, environment and climate change, the 2021 IDM revisited the topic at a time of increasing political urgency, as the world grapples with the multipronged and far-reaching impacts of the COVID-19 global health crisis.⁵⁵ Looking ahead, IOM now needs to provide States with more systematic technical policy and legal expertise. We will intensify our support to governments in their efforts to translate global principles into national and local level policies and programmes that are aligned with internationally agreed commitments such as the Paris Agreement, the UNFCCC Recommendations of the Taskforce on Displacement and the Global Compact for Migration.

This objective is aligned with IOM's role as the coordinator of the United Nations Network on Migration.

54 The 2018 "Report on the Policy Capacity of the International Organization for Migration" identified IOM's policy work on migration, environment and climate change as a best practice of how IOM supports and engages in global, regional and national policy development.

55 Accelerating integrated action on sustainable development: migration, the environment and climate change, IDM 2021. Available at www.iom.int/accelerating-integrated-action-sustainable-development-migration-environment-and-climate-change.

Targeted priority actions will include:

a. Supporting the mainstreaming of migration issues in regional, national, and local climate, environmental and related policies

We will provide expertise, capacity development activities and targeted project initiatives to support States to integrate migration considerations into regional, national and local climate, desertification, biodiversity, oceans, ecosystems and environmental frameworks and related policies such as conflict prevention, rural development and sustainable food systems. We will continue to support States and other authorities to integrate migration and displacement considerations into climate policies and programmes, such as Nationally Determined Contributions,⁵⁶ and National Adaptation Plans.⁵⁷ We will support national efforts to mainstream migration concerns in different environmental areas. We will focus on areas that are currently underexplored, such as the linkages between migration and ecosystem managements, including ocean and land and the connections between migration and water management. We will support national policy coherence efforts so that the implementation of commitments under the Paris Agreement is aligned with the implementation of Voluntary National Reviews⁵⁸ and of National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies.⁵⁹ We will explore partnership opportunities to assess the local implementation of global goals related to migration and climate and environmental policies.⁶⁰

b. Advancing global governance efforts on migration, environment and climate change

Building on existing evidence, we will strengthen our technical support to the development and

implementation of key policy processes at the global level, such as the negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the work of the UNFCCC Task Force on Displacement, the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration the work of the UN Network on Migration, its Workstream on climate change and migration, to the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) and its Progress Declaration, the implementation of the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda, the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and IOM's IDM. To achieve this, we will also strengthen our partnerships, such as with the PDD and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in line with the UNHCR Strategic Framework for Climate Action.⁶¹

c. Supporting local, urban and rural governments to integrate migration, climate change and environmental concerns

We will support partnerships between national and local governments, municipalities and civil society organizations, to address the underlying challenges linked to migration and displacement in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters due to natural hazards. This includes looking at the challenges linked to rapid urbanization and precarious livelihoods. Migrants and displaced persons often live and work in urban and peri-urban areas with limited public amenities and services. In this context, we will mobilize and leverage IOM's existing partnerships with local governments and city-led organizations⁶² to foster greater dialogue and action at the local level.

56 <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs>.

57 www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Pages/national-adaptation-plans.aspx.

58 <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/>.

59 Words into Action www.undrr.org/developing-national-disaster-risk-reduction-strategies.

60 This includes for instance supporting the Voluntary Local Reviews (LVRs) of the 2030 Agenda and the GFMD Mayors Mechanism Call to Local Action to implement the Global Compact for Migration and Global Compact on Refugees.

61 Strategic Framework for Climate Action, UNHCR 2021 www.unhcr.org/604a26d84.pdf.

62 Such as the Mayors Migration Council and Global Forum on Migration and Development Mayors Mechanism.



5

**TOWARDS
IMPLEMENTATION**

5. TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION

IOM's efforts to implement the vision and principles outlined in this document will continue with the development of Phase 2 of the institution-wide Strategy on Migration, Environment and Climate Change.

Phase 2 will focus on the development of a Strategy Guidance Paper, featuring programme, fundraising, funding and partnership components with examples from different regions. The Strategy Guidance Paper will propose an action plan building also on the recommendations produced by the IOM Office of the Inspector General external evaluation of migration and climate change work within the Organization.⁶³

The Strategy Guidance Paper will articulate how the Priority Areas of Engagement are translated into actions in order to achieve strategic Objectives and identify IOM thematic areas and country offices committed to implementing those initiatives. Priority actions will be proposed for all IOM regions and will follow context specific and complementary approaches: operational responses, policy development, research and knowledge development, communication, and capacity development. To enhance institutional coherence, the guidance paper will be fully aligned with the new IOM Strategic Results Framework.

IOM already works with a large network of governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental stakeholders from the human mobility, humanitarian, environmental, development and academic sectors. The multicausal nature of migration in the context of climate and environmental change calls for partnerships, cooperation and common approaches, where each entity brings its expertise. In that respect, IOM will lead whenever possible the development and implementation of joint activities that leverage its existing comparative advantage and maximize partners' comparative advantages. IOM should continue to build upon its existing partnerships and further engage in the development of innovative collaborations with actors such as the private sector, international and regional development banks, and migrant and diaspora stakeholders.

The Strategy Guidance Paper will be developed in close coordination with all relevant IOM departments and their divisions, as well as regional and national offices, working together to implement a common institutional narrative. As a follow up to the consultations held during the Strategy development phase, consultations will be organized with IOM Member States, UN partners and civil society stakeholders, in order to identify external champions who are committed to work in close coordination with IOM to implement the Organization's vision.

63 Evaluation of IOM's Institutional Response To Address Migration, Environment And Climate Change Nexus <https://evaluation.iom.int/repository>, May 2021.

Our Areas of Investment

IOM must dedicate predictable and sufficient resources to strengthen its institutional capacities in key areas to reach its Strategic Objectives. These investments should in turn enhance IOM's ability to provide effective and relevant technical expertise to its Member States, migrants and their communities. Identified priority areas for institutional strengthening include:

5.1 SUPPORTING UN-WIDE APPROACHES AND IMPLEMENTING UN-WIDE COMMITMENTS

IOM will seek to enhance its capacities to support the development of UN-wide approaches of relevance to the migration, environment and climate change nexus. This includes contributing to and implementing the outcomes of system-wide initiatives and strategies, such as those related to climate action and biodiversity. It also entails strengthening IOM's ability to include environmental migration dimensions in national-level

UN processes, such as UN Country Teams, UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, and Common Country Assessments and regional UN mechanisms such as the Issues-Based Coalitions and Peer Support Groups. We will seek to enhance our engagement with the UN Development Coordination Office (DCO), the Regional DCO Directors and UN Resident Coordinators.

5.2 STRENGTHENING INTERNAL POLICY AND TECHNICAL CAPACITIES

IOM must invest in strengthening its internal technical expertise to enhance its ability to provide advisory policy support to governments who seek to review, develop, and implement policies at the national level that are aligned with internationally agreed upon commitments. This policy support

should be cross-cutting and maximize synergies between various policy areas. Enhanced technical expertise is also needed to support IOM offices to fully integrate climate and environmental dimensions throughout its programming.

5.3 ADVOCATING EFFECTIVELY AND RELAYING EVIDENCE-BASED NARRATIVES

IOM will continue to promote the development and dissemination of messages that reflect existing realities. In a world where misinformation and ensuing negative narratives adversely impact the perception of migration and the rights and well-being of migrants, it is critical for the Organization to provide evidence-

based information and craft appropriate messages anchored in an objective analysis of the issues at stake. IOM's Portal of Environmental Migration is already an important source of information on the topic that can be further maximized.

5.4 ACCESSING GLOBAL CLIMATE FUNDING

To date, few migration-focused activities are financed by global climate and environmental financing instruments. Though the organizations and partners started accessing Multi-Partner Trust Funds it is still a significant gap as access to these financial instruments could significantly accelerate action on the ground.

IOM will strengthen its capacity to develop migration-focused activities that can be implemented in the context of global climate and environmental financing instruments, such as the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, and the Global Environmental Facility. The Organization will explore options to

partner with local governments and other actors in developing migration-focused proposals to these funding mechanisms.

IOM will invest in enhancing its technical capacity to understand the complexities of climate financing, develop project proposals targeting climate funds, and develop the institutional structures that are required to access such financial instruments as well as other Multi-Partner Trust Funds.

5.5 MAINSTREAMING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY DIMENSIONS

IOM should invest in ensuring that its operational footprint is sustainable and do not cause environmental harm. All activities seeking to address

the migration, environment and climate change issues need to follow the principles outlined in IOM Environmental Sustainability Policy.⁶⁴

⁶⁴ <https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/environmental-sustainability-0>.

The background of the page is a complex, abstract geometric pattern. It consists of numerous overlapping, irregular polygons in various shades of light gray and white. Some of these polygons are filled with a very light gray color. Scattered throughout the pattern are several small, solid blue-gray dots. Some of these dots are connected to other dots by thin, dashed lines, creating a network-like structure. The overall effect is a modern, technical, and interconnected visual design.

ANNEXES

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1. EXISTING INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS

This Strategy seeks to contribute to and fit under IOM institutional frameworks – existing and currently under development; with the ambition to enhance coherent and comprehensive action. It is part of a set of new institutional strategic documents requested by the IOM Director General in 2020, as part of the implementation of his Strategic Vision for the Organization. This Strategy is therefore directly complementary to the following institutional frameworks:

IOM Strategic Vision 2019–2023 and IOM Strategic Results Frameworks (2019)

The development of an institutional Strategy on Migration, Environment and Climate Change as part of the Director General's Strategic Vision 2019–2023 for the Organization, comes in response to the demand of Member States for IOM to invest more deeply in understanding and responding to the emerging drivers of migration, notably environmental degradation and climate change. The Strategy is therefore in line with the three pillars articulated in the 2019 IOM Director General's Strategic Vision: resilience, mobility and governance.⁶⁵ This Strategy is aligned with the new IOM Strategic Results Framework (SRF) that operationalizes the IOM Strategic Vision and integrates commitments from the IOM Migration Governance Framework, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. IOM's three Pillars of Action on migration, environment and climate change are mainstreamed across the four Objectives of the SRF that will serve as the basis for reporting on all IOM activities.

IOM Institutional Strategy on Migration and Sustainable Development (2020)

The IOM Institutional Strategy on Migration and Sustainable Development outlines a whole-of-organization approach to comprehensively integrate migration and development into policymaking and programming within IOM. It recognizes that migration, when well-managed, can be a development strategy with positive development outcomes.⁶⁶ Through the strategy, IOM's approach is to maximize the potential

of migration to achieve sustainable development outcomes for migrants and societies by focusing on achieving three central outcomes: (i) Human mobility is increasingly a choice, (ii) Migrants and their families are empowered as development actors, and (iii) Migration is increasingly well governed. In order to achieve these outcomes, environment and climate change is identified as a cross-cutting issue which should be mainstreamed across our approaches to maximize the potential of migration to achieve sustainable development outcomes. The Strategy's three environmental standards (safeguards) will be embedded across IOM development approaches:

- (i) assessment and management of environmental risks and impacts;
- (ii) resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management; and
- (iii) biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource management.

IOM Migration Data Strategy: Informing Policy and Action on Migration, Mobility and Displacement (2020)

The Policy details how data are an essential tool to better understand drivers of migration, including climate and environmental drivers. It expresses IOM's commitment to actively support global efforts to increase the availability of, access to, analysis of and responsible use of migration data. The overall objective is to enhance evidence-based policy formulation and implementation, support programmatic and operational responses, and promote a balanced public discourse on migration.

65 IOM Strategic Vision 2019–2023: Setting a course for IOM, C/110/INF/1 Original: English 15 November 2019.

66 IOM (2017), Migration in the 2030 Agenda: Implementation of the Migration, Environment and Climate-Related Commitments of the 2030 Agenda.

IOM Framework for Addressing Internal Displacement (2017)

Outlines the main tenets of the Organization's response to internal displacement. Aligned with prevailing external normative and legal instruments within the humanitarian architecture and grounded within the Organization's own robust set of dedicated and evolving policies and frameworks, it sets out IOM's ongoing principles, commitments, approach and operational objectives in relation to the changing and dynamic global landscape of internal displacement. It provides the foundation and direction forward on the Organization's engagement on internal displacement in all its aspects.

IOM Environmental Sustainability Strategy

IOM recognizes that a healthy environment is inherently linked to the safety, security and well-being of migrants and societies. In line with the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, IOM also acknowledges that environmental sustainability is intrinsically related to IOM's development and humanitarian commitments and that sound environmental management practices provide a foundation for long-term resilience of migrants and societies.

IOM applies an iterative approach to environmental management to achieve its environmental sustainability vision crafted as follows: "By 2030, IOM is recognized for leading on environmental sustainability efforts in migration management in line with the Organization's greater commitment to the Agenda 2030 and the Strategy for Sustainability Management in the UN System 2020–2030".

The IOM Environmental Sustainability Strategy is formulated to identify a road map to achieve this vision. The Strategy is part of IOM's mission to uphold the well-being of migrants and communities and is

grounded in the institutional commitment made in 2017 to mainstream environmental sustainability in its strategies, projects and programmes, and facility management and operations.

The Strategy builds on the Environmental Sustainability Programme launched in 2017. The goal of the Programme is to develop an organization-wide environmental management framework to manage IOM's environmental impacts in line with the UN system-wide commitments, including the new Strategy for Sustainability Management in the United Nations system 2020–2030 – Phase I and Phase II. The Programme directly contributes to strengthening internal governance related to environmental management in line with the IOM Internal Governance Framework.

Recognizing that sector-wide and systematic change is necessary to achieve the UN's system and IOM's sustainability mission, IOM will continue leading on environmental sustainability efforts and initiatives related to the clean energy transition and circular economy with a special focus on migration contexts including displacement settings.

IOM regional and continental strategies

IOM has developed in 2020 regional strategies that all make direct references to addressing migration in the context of climate and environmental change, including IOM Continental Strategy for Africa 2020–2024,⁶⁷ IOM Regional Strategy 2020–2024 West and Central Africa,⁶⁸ IOM Regional Strategy 2020–2024 Southern Africa,⁶⁹ IOM Regional Strategy 2020–2024 Middle East and North Africa,⁷⁰ IOM Regional Strategy 2020–2024 South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia,⁷¹ IOM Regional Strategy 2020–2024 European Economic Area, Switzerland and the United Kingdom,⁷² IOM Regional Strategy 2020–2024 East and Horn of Africa,⁷³ IOM

67 <https://publications.iom.int/books/iom-continental-strategy-africa-2020-2024>.

68 <https://publications.iom.int/books/west-and-central-africa-regional-strategy-2020-2024>.

69 <https://publications.iom.int/books/southern-africa-regional-strategy-2020-2024>.

70 <https://publications.iom.int/books/middle-east-and-north-africa-regional-strategy-2020-2024>.

71 <https://publications.iom.int/books/south-eastern-europe-eastern-europe-and-central-asia-regional-strategy-2020-2024>.

72 <https://publications.iom.int/books/european-economic-area-switzerland-and-united-kingdom-regional-strategy-2020-2024>.

73 <https://publications.iom.int/books/east-and-horn-of-africa-regional-strategy-2020-2024>.

Regional Strategy 2020–2024 Asia and the Pacific,⁷⁴ IOM Regional Strategy 2020–2024 South America,⁷⁵ and IOM Regional Strategy 2020–2024 North America, Central America and the Caribbean.⁷⁶

Others

This Strategy is aligned with several relevant IOM strategic frameworks and institutional policies, in particular the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF).⁷⁷ Other documents that have been considered include IOM's Migration Governance Indicators,⁷⁸ and the IOM Guidance Note on Protection Mainstreaming.⁷⁹

Other IOM internal frameworks also guided the development of the Strategy: IOM's Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF),⁸⁰ IOM's Humanitarian Policy,⁸¹ IOM's Framework to Addressing Internal Displacement,⁸² IOM's Framework on the Progressive Resolution of Displacement Situations,⁸³ Taking Sendai Forward: IOM's Strategic Workplan on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience 2017–2020,⁸⁴ the IOM Protection Approach,⁸⁵ IOM's Policy on the full spectrum of Return, Readmission and Reintegration⁸⁶ and Adopting A Comprehensive Approach To Internal Displacement: Operationalizing The Triple Nexus.⁸⁷

ANNEX 2. NEW GLOBAL POLICY COMMITMENTS

In recent years, key international commitments of relevance to migration in the context of climate change and environmental degradation have been internationally agreed upon. This Strategy is aligned with the principles outlined in the main frameworks that are presented below. These frameworks are all mutually reinforcing, and taken together, they provide a comprehensive set of principles for action on migration, climate change and the environment. Through this Strategy, IOM intends to enhance its support to States who seek to implement the principles outlined in global frameworks.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

In September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. Migration features explicitly in this Agenda, a remarkable development considering that migration was absent from the Millennium Development Goals.⁸⁸ Migration dimensions are inserted in several goals and targets, in particular

through a dedicated target on “facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people” within goal 10 on reducing inequalities. Climate, environment and migration concerns are also of great relevance to other Goals, including Goal 13 on Climate Action, Goal 14 on Life Below Water and Goal 15 on Life on Land.

74 <https://publications.iom.int/books/asia-and-pacific-regional-strategy-2020-2024>.

75 <https://publications.iom.int/books/south-america-regional-strategy-2020-2024>.

76 <https://publications.iom.int/books/central-america-north-america-and-caribbean-regional-strategy-2020-2024>.

77 <https://publications.iom.int/books/migration-governance-framework>.

78 <https://gmdac.iom.int/migration-governance-indicators>.

79 www.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbdl486/files/2018-08/IN-232-How-to-mainstream-protection-in-IOM-crisis-response.pdf.

80 www.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbdl486/files/2019-01/MC_2355_2.pdf and <https://iomint.sharepoint.com/sites/mcof2020>.

81 www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/DOE/humanitarian_emergencies/IOM-Humanitarian-Policy-Principles-on-Humanitarian-Action.pdf.

82 www.iom.int/sites/default/files/press_release/file/170829_IDP_Framework_LowRes.pdf.

83 www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/DOE/humanitarian_emergencies/PRDS/IOM-PRDS-Framework.pdf.

84 www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/DOE/humanitarian_emergencies/Disaster-Risk-Reduction-Strategic-Action-Plan.pdf.

85 IOM Protection Approach, in process.

86 IOM's Policy on the full spectrum of Return, Readmission and Reintegration, in process.

87 Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance S/28/7, IOM 2020.

88 https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/sdg_en.pdf.

The Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the work undertaken under the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC), including the recommendations of the UNFCCC Taskforce on Displacement (Katowice 10/24, 2018)

The UNFCCC first recognized the growing importance population movements in the context of climate change with the adoption of the 2010 Cancun Adaptation Framework⁸⁹ and the 2012 Doha Decision on Loss and Damage.⁹⁰ The 2015 Paris Agreement referred to the need to protect migrants in the Agreement's Preamble and created the [Task Force on Displacement](#),⁹¹ as part of the work programme of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage (WIM Excom).

The 2015–2017 work plan of WIM Excom featured an Action Area (6), entitled “Enhance the understanding of and expertise on how the impacts of climate change are affecting patterns of migration, displacement and human mobility; and the application of such understanding and expertise”. A five-year rolling (2017–2021) workplan with a work stream on human mobility was subsequently adopted by the WIM Excom. The UNFCCC Task Force on displacement produced in 2018 its “Recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change” (Decision 10/CP.24.)^{92, 93} The recommendations went beyond a narrow understanding of displacement and addressed all forms of human mobility linked to climate change, from facilitating regular migration to planned relocation. IOM has been a founding member of the Task Force on Displacement since 2016.

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration⁹⁴ and IOM's role in the UN Network on Migration⁹⁵

The Global Compact for Migration dedicates a specific paragraph to “Natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation” under Objective 2 (Minimize adverse drivers) and contains other references to environmental migration, including under Objective 5 (Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration). The Global Compact calls for developing coherent approaches to address the challenges of migration movements in the context of disasters triggered by sudden-onset and slow-onset hazards. The Global Compact rests on principles outlined in several global instruments related to climate change, disaster and environmental governance, notably the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.²¹

To support the implementation, follow-up and review of the Global Compact, the United Nations established the UN Network on Migration to ensure effective, timely and coordinated system-wide support to Member States. The Network Secretariat was established under the overall coordination of the Director General of IOM and has recognized climate change and migration as a strategic priority for 2021. IOM will be providing strategic and substantive guidance to the Network's workstream on climate change and migration in the lead-up to COP 26 and the IMRF.

The Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF)⁹⁶

The Start-Up Fund for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (or Migration MPTF) was called for by the Global Compact on Migration, adopted by the General Assembly in December 2018. It is a UN multi-donor financing mechanism set-up to provide joined-up UN expertise and support to Member States in their efforts to implement the Global Compact. UN entities at the country-level will work with national

89 Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 14(f)).

90 Decision 3/CP.18, paragraph 7 (a) (vi)).

91 Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 49.

92 https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cp24_auv_1cp24_final.pdf Decision -/CP.24 Preparations for the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement.

93 <https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/blogs/iom-perspectives-climate-change-and-migration>.

94 <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/>.

95 <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/secretariat>.

96 <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/mptf>.

partners on identifying migration needs through joint analysis and on designing joint programmes to provide a collective response to those needs.

The Fund is the only funding mechanism fully dedicated to supporting collective action on migration and ensuring that the mutual trust, determination and solidarity among States and with other stakeholders can be fostered to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration. Heeding the call of the Global Compact to be implemented at local, national, regional and global levels, the Fund is designed to support initiatives at all levels.

Human Rights Council Resolutions 2

The Human Rights Council (HRC) and its special procedures mechanisms have been examining the human rights and climate change. The HRC adopted in July 2017 Resolution A/HRC/RES/35/20 on Human Rights and Climate Change,⁹⁷ which recognizes migrants and persons displaced across international borders in the context of climate change. The Resolution's Preamble takes note of the work of the Migration, Environment and Climate Change Division in IOM.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and the UN Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience

The Sendai Framework makes a direct connection between disasters, climate change, migration and displacement, as it acknowledges the role of disasters in driving human mobility and recognizes displacement as one of the consequences of disasters. The Framework also acknowledges migrants' role in building resilience for communities of origin and destination and the need to involve them in local

disaster risk management. As part of its institutional mandate to address the mobility dimensions of crisis, IOM is committed to supporting States to reduce risk and build resilience, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.⁹⁸

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

The UNCCD was the first ever international environmental agreement to explicitly link migration issues with environmental change and several of its decisions are specifically dedicated to the connection between migration, drought, desertification and land degradation.⁹⁹

The Nansen Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change¹⁰⁰

The Nansen Initiative, a bottom-up State-led consultative process, led to the adoption of the Nansen Initiative Agenda for the Protection of Persons Displaced Across Borders in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change in 2015. The Agenda details measures States and other stakeholders can take to address the protection needs of persons displaced across international borders by disasters, including those linked to the adverse effects of climate change. Its implementation is spearheaded by the PDD, the Nansen Initiative's successor. IOM played a key role in the development of the Nansen Agenda and is supporting the Agenda's implementation through numerous joint activities. IOM is a Standing Invitee to the PDD's Steering Group together with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

97 Resolution A/HRC/RES/35/20 on Human Rights and Climate Change https://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/RES/35/20.

98 IOM and the Sendai Framework: A Global Review of IOM's Contributions to Strengthening Disaster Resilience, IOM 2020 <https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/drr-2019-ar.pdf>.

99 "Addressing the Land Degradation – Migration Nexus: The Role of the UNCCD" <https://knowledge.unccd.int/publication/addressing-land-degradation-migration-nexus-role-unccd>.

100 *Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change* (2015). Developed through the State-led Nansen Initiative and endorsed by 109 States.

The UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement

The High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement (HLP on IDPs) established in 2019 by the UN Secretary-General to increase global attention on the topic and develop concrete recommendations. The HLP is giving extensive attention to issues related to climate change and internal displacement.

Other examples

Other frameworks and forums are of relevance to this Strategy, such as the Urban Agenda, the Global Compact on Refugees, the work of tripartite constituents of the ILO,¹⁰¹ the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), the Istanbul Programme of Action for the LDCs, the SAMOA Pathway¹⁰² and the mandates of several UN Special Rapporteurs (the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, the Special Rapporteur on human rights and the

environment, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to clean water and sanitation). Additionally, continental and regional strategies such as the African Union Strategy on Climate Change are important guiding documents to support IOM efforts to address migration and climate change. The European Green Deal is the flagship policy framework of the European Commission and will impact almost all major aspects of the European economy, including energy, transport, construction, food and agriculture. It is an integral part of the European Commission's strategy to implement the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals. IOM is working to highlight safe, orderly and regular migration as a way to support the green transition and achieving the SDGs. Other international policy forums offer a regular space to discuss human mobility and climate change considerations, in particular the UN Environment Assembly, the UNHCR Executive Committee, IOM Governing Bodies and the IOM IDM.¹⁰³

101 The ILO tripartite constituents have adopted international labour standards, which apply to all workers, including migrant workers affected by climate and environmental impacts.

102 Formally, SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action www.2030caribbean.org/content/unct/caribbean/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/samoa-pathway.html.

103 <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/TFD%20Output%20activity%20II.2.pdf>.

ANNEX 3. KEY ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE TERMINOLOGY

This text box outlines the relevant terminology used in this Strategy on migration, environment and climate change.

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| CLIMATE CHANGE | <p>“[A] change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to other natural climate variability that has been observed over comparable time periods” (UNFCCC, 1992. Article 1).</p> |
| DISASTER | <p>A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability and capacity, leading to one or more of the following: human, material, economic and environmental losses and impacts. (UNDRR, accessed 2021).</p> |
| ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE | <p>“[C]hanges in the physical and biogeochemical environment, over a large scale, either caused naturally or influenced by human activities” (Foresight, 2011:50) (including industrial accidents), either through fast-onset or slow-onset events. As ecosystem services and exposure to hazard are important drivers of migration, “global environmental change will affect the risk calculations involved in moving and people’s decisions to stay or move from their settlements” (ibid.). Environmental change thus affects the environmental drivers of migration (Foresight, 2011). Environmental change includes both environmental degradation and climate change.</p> |
| ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION | <p>“The reduction of the capacity of the environment to meet social and ecological objectives and needs. [...] Degradation of the environment can alter the frequency and intensity of natural hazards and increase the vulnerability of communities. The types of human-induced degradation are varied and include land misuse, soil erosion and loss, desertification, wildland fires, loss of biodiversity, deforestation, mangrove destruction, land, water and air pollution, climate change, sea level rise and ozone depletion” (UNISDR, 2009).</p> |
| EXPOSURE | <p>“The presence of people, livelihoods, species or ecosystems, environmental services and resources, infrastructure, or economic, social, or cultural assets in places that could be adversely affected” (IPCC, 2013:12) by environmental and climate change impacts.</p> |
| HAZARD | <p>“A process, phenomenon or human activity that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation. Hazards include (as mentioned in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, and listed in alphabetical order) biological, environmental, geological, hydrometeorological and technological processes and phenomena”. Several hazards are socionatural, in that they are associated with a combination of natural and anthropogenic factors, including environmental degradation and climate change. (UNDRR accessed 2021 www.undrr.org/terminology/hazard).</p> |
| NATURAL HAZARDS | <p>Are naturally occurring physical phenomena caused either by rapid or slow onset events which can be geophysical (earthquakes, landslides, tsunamis and volcanic activity), hydrological (avalanches and floods), climatological (extreme temperatures, drought and wildfires), meteorological (cyclones and storms/wave surges) or biological (disease epidemics and insect/animal plagues) (IFRC accessed 2021).</p> |
| TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS | <p>Originate from technological or industrial conditions, dangerous procedures, infrastructure failures or specific human activities. Examples include industrial pollution, nuclear radiation, toxic wastes, dam failures, transport accidents, factory explosions, fires and chemical spills. Technological hazards also may arise directly as a result of the impacts of a natural hazard event. (UNDRR accessed 2021 www.undrr.org/terminology/hazard).</p> |
| SUDDEN ONSET EVENTS | <p>Include hydro meteorological hazards such as flooding, windstorms or mudslides, and geophysical hazards including earthquakes, tsunamis or volcano eruptions (WMO, 2021, Website).</p> |
| SLOW ONSET PROCESSES | <p>Include increasing temperatures; desertification; loss of biodiversity; land and forest degradation; glacial retreat and related impacts; ocean acidification; sea level rise; and land salinization (UNFCCC 2021 https://unfccc.int/wim-Excom/areas-of-work/slow-onset-events and https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cop16/eng/07a01.pdf)</p> |

ANNEX 4. KEY MIGRATION TERMINOLOGY

This text box outlines relevant terminology on migration, environment and climate change, according to areas of engagement and focus, extracted from IOM “Glossary on Migration”, IOM 2019 and external resources.

International law contributes to create common denominators, through the definitions provided by international instruments that are binding on the States that are parties to them. However, this is not the case for the definitions used to capture migration in the context of climate change and environmental degradation, some concepts are very complex and working definitions are varying and continuously evolving.

For working purposes, IOM has also developed non-normative definitions of key terms that reflect a broad understanding of the relationship between migration, environment and climate change, helping to draw out definitions and conceptualizations and pertaining to conceptual, legal, theoretical, statistical or practical matters of migration.

Environmental migrant: A person or group(s) of persons who, predominantly for reasons of sudden or progressive changes in the environment that adversely affect their lives or living conditions, are forced to leave their places of habitual residence, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, and who move within or outside their country of origin or habitual residence. There is no international agreement on a term to be used to describe persons or groups of persons that move for environment related reasons. This definition of environmental migrant is not meant to create any new legal categories. It is a working definition aimed at describing all the various situations in which people move in the context of environmental factors.

Sources: Council of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Discussion Note: Migration and the Environment (November 2007) MC/INF/288; IOM, International Dialogue on Migration (No 18) Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration (2012); IOM, Outlook on Migration, Environment and Climate Change (2014).

Climate migration: The movement of a person or groups of persons who, predominantly for reasons of sudden or progressive change in the environment due to climate change, are obliged to leave their habitual place of residence, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, within a State or across an international border. This is a working definition of IOM with an analytic and advocacy purpose which does not have any specific legal value. Migration in this context can be associated with greater vulnerability of affected people, particularly if it is forced. Yet, migration can also be a form of adaptation to environmental stressors, helping to build resilience of affected individuals and communities.

Source: Warsaw International Mechanism, Executive Committee, Action Area 6: Migration, Displacement and Human Mobility - Submission from the International Organization for Migration (IOM, 2016);

Cross-border displacement refers to situations where people flee or are displaced across borders in the context of sudden- or slow-onset disasters, or in the context of the effects of climate change. <https://disasterdisplacement.org/the-platform/key-definitions>.

Displacement: The movement of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters.

Source: Adapted from Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, annexed to United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Report of the Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr Francis M. Deng, Submitted Pursuant to Commission Resolution 1997/39, Addendum (11 February 1998) UN Doc. E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, para. 2 of the introduction.

Note: Unlike the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, the above definition is meant to cover both internal and cross-border displacement.

Disaster displacement: The movement of persons who have been forced or obliged to leave their homes or places of habitual residence as a result of a disaster or in order to avoid the impact of an immediate and foreseeable natural hazard (...)

Source: Adapted from The Nansen Initiative, Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change (Vol. 1, December 2015) p. 16.). Disaster displacement may take the form of spontaneous flight, an evacuation ordered or enforced by authorities or an involuntary planned relocation process. Such displacement can occur within a country (internal displacement), or across international borders (cross-border disaster displacement) (The Nansen Initiative, Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change (Vol. 1, December 2015).

Forced migration: A migratory movement which, although the drivers can be diverse, involves force, compulsion, or coercion.

Note: While not an international legal concept, this term has been used to describe the movements of refugees, displaced persons (including those displaced by disasters or development projects), and, in some instances, victims of trafficking. At the international level the use of this term is debated because of the widespread recognition that a continuum of agency exists rather than a voluntary/forced dichotomy and that it might undermine the existing legal international protection regime.

Human mobility: A generic term covering all the different forms of movements of persons.

Note: The term human mobility in the context of the climate negotiation reflects a wider range of movements of persons than the term migration. The term is usually understood as also encompassing tourists that are generally considered as not engaging in migration. For example, the international organizations member of the Advisory Group on Climate Change and Human Mobility are using the term human mobility to refer to the broad range of types of movements that can take place in the context of climate change.

Source: Advisory Group on Climate Change and Human Mobility, Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change UNFCCC - Paris COP21 (2015).

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border.

Source: Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, annexed to United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Report of the Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr Francis M. Deng, Submitted Pursuant to Commission Resolution 1997/39, Addendum (11 February 1998) UN Doc E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, 6.



International migrant: Any person who is outside a State of which he or she is a citizen or national, or, in the case of a stateless person, his or her State of birth or habitual residence. The term includes migrants who intend to move permanently or temporarily, and those who move in a regular or documented manner as well as migrants in irregular situations.

Source: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders. For statistical purposes, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) defines an "international migrant" as "any person who changes his or her country of usual residence" (Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1 (1998) para. 32).

Labour migration: Movement of persons from one State to another, or within their own country of residence, for the purpose of employment.

Note: In line with the definition of migrant, labour migration is defined as covering both migrants moving within the country and across international borders. This choice is also justified by the significant number of persons moving within the same country for work purposes who sometimes face the same barriers or challenges faced by international migrants, such as discrimination and difficulties in integration. Although such challenges may be greater for migrants moving across borders they are not totally absent also for internal migrants.

Planned relocation: Planned relocation in the context of disasters or environmental degradation, including when due to the effects of climate change, is a planned process in which persons or groups of persons move or are assisted to move away from their homes or place of temporary residence, are settled in a new location, and provided with the conditions for rebuilding their lives.

Source: Adapted from The Brookings Institution, Georgetown University Institute for the Study of International Migration and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Guidance on Protecting People From Disasters and Environmental Change Through Planned Relocation, (Brookings, 2015) p. 5., Weerasinghe and Bower 2021.

Protection: Refers to any positive action, whether or not based on legal obligations, undertaken by States on behalf of disaster displaced persons or persons at risk of being displaced that aim at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the letter and spirit of applicable bodies of law, namely human rights law, international humanitarian law and refugee law (Nansen Protection Agenda, 2015). The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) endorsed the definition that states that protection is about advocating for, supporting or undertaking activities that aim to obtain full respect, protect and fulfil the rights of all individuals in accordance with the letter and spirit of relevant bodies of law (i.e. International Human Rights Law, International Humanitarian Law, and International Refugee law). Protection in the humanitarian arena entails recognized system-wide standards that have been agreed upon and are supported by a well-structured coordination system in place. <https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/>.

Trapped populations: Populations who do not migrate, yet are situated in areas under threat, [...] at risk of becoming 'trapped' or having to stay behind, where they will be more vulnerable to environmental shocks and impoverishment.

Source: Adapted from Foresight, Migration and Global Environmental Change (2011) p. 25, cited in International Organization for Migration, Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Evidence for Policy (MECLEP), Glossary (2014) p. 17.

Note: The notion of trapped populations applies in particular to poorer households who may not have the resources to move and whose livelihoods are affected (International Organization for Migration, Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Evidence for Policy (MECLEP), Glossary (2014) p. 17).

Source: Adapted from IOM Glossary on Migration, IOM, 2019.

ANNEX 5. EXAMPLES OF IOM ACTIVITIES

Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Initiative,¹⁰⁴ IOM supports the inclusion of migrants and displaced persons in disaster risk reduction efforts, taking into account the specific vulnerabilities that these groups face and the fact that they are too often unaccounted for when disaster strikes. This multi-stakeholder initiative produced the “Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster”.¹⁰⁵

IOM leads the **Global Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster**, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee coordination mechanism that supports people affected by disasters and internally displaced people (IDPs).¹⁰⁶ The CCCM Cluster has developed extensive guidance to support the management of displaced populations in the context of disasters, whether within their own country or across border, and providing guidance¹⁰⁷ on camp and non-camp assistance and protection. IOM as the leader of the CCCM Cluster, coordinated the UN efforts with the Governments of Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua to ensure the provision of services and avoid overlap of efforts and reduce gaps in humanitarian care in response to Hurricane Eta, in 2020. In 2020, IOM provided emergency shelter and non-food items kits to victims of floods in in Burundi.

IOM actively engages in efforts to strengthen data availability to inform humanitarian actors and supports humanitarian response to climate shocks, mobility pressures and disasters. Through the **Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)** IOM tracks and monitors displacement and population mobility in disaster situations and collects key data to support strategic response planning, operational implementation and delivery of humanitarian assistance. Throughout 2020–2021, IOM provided humanitarian responses in a variety of disaster settings including for example Honduras, Guatemala, Zimbabwe, Timor-Leste, Mozambique.

Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation

IOM assists countries to prevent and manage risks through resilience building and adaptation measures that integrate human mobility dimensions and perspectives. Much of this work takes place in partnership and in coordination with other actors and initiatives, such as the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (The CADRI Partnership), the PDD, the Norwegian Refugee Council, and the Task Force on Displacement, under UNFCCC. Existing tools provide ample guidance on how to design and implement interventions targeting specific dimensions of the linkages between mobility, the environment, and risks. Examples include the “Words into Action Guidelines on Disaster Displacement”,¹⁰⁸ the “CADRI Capacity Assessment and Planning Tool for Disaster Risk Management”,¹⁰⁹ and the “Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster”.¹¹⁰

104 <https://micicinitiative.iom.int/>.

105 <https://micicinitiative.iom.int/guidelines>.

106 <https://cccmcluster.org/>.

107 www.iom.int/mend-guide-comprehensive-guide-planning-mass-evacuations-natural-disasters.

108 www.undrr.org/publication/words-action-guidelines-disaster-displacement.

109 www.cadri.net/en/cadri-tool.

110 <https://micicinitiative.iom.int/guidelines>.

Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration

To address the impact of climate breakdown on migration in cities, mayors from around the world joined together to establish the C40 Cities (C40) Mayors Migration Council Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration. Guided by the mayors Barcelona, Bristol, Dakar, Dhaka North, Freetown, Houston, Los Angeles, Lima and Milan, the Task Force will develop an Action Agenda in partnership with migrant and refugee community leaders, business leaders, and experts to be presented at the United Nations Climate Conference (COP26) in November 2021 in dialogue with national and regional counterparts. IOM is invited to advise and contribute to the development of the Action Agenda as a leading knowledge provider and driver of innovative policies that address the migration, environment and climate change nexus.

Guidance for mainstreaming environmental and climate considerations into reintegration programming

IOM as the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration focuses on innovative practices of environmentally sustainable reintegration and their positive impact on both climate change adaptation as well as returnees' reintegration in their countries of origin. As part of its work, IOM developed the Environmental Annex of the IOM Reintegration Handbook "Guidance for mainstreaming environmental and climate considerations into reintegration programming",¹¹¹ funded by the UK Department for International Development.

Greening humanitarian responses through recovery, repair, and recycling of solar products in displacement settings

is an IOM-led project that aims to develop systems for reusing, repairing and recycling of solar products. The project will also produce and share learnings around the unique factors affecting electronic repair and e-waste management in displacement settings in order to help "green" existing humanitarian operations in other places.¹¹²

Addressing Drivers and Facilitating Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in the Contexts of Disasters and Climate Change in the IGAD¹¹³ Region

IOM is the lead implementing partner of a Joint-Program with the International Labour Organization (ILO), Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) – hosted under the United Nations Office for Project Services and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre and funded by the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF). The project seeks to minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin, while also facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration in the context of disasters, climate change and environmental degradation in the IGAD Region. The programme's objective is to improve regional and national migration governance in the context of the adverse impacts of climate change and environmental degradation through different actions that each address the relevant objectives of the Global Compact for Migration and contribute to the implementation of other relevant international instruments and seeks to create synergies with a project implemented by UNHCR in the Sahel.

Implementing Global Policies on Environmental Migration and Disaster Displacement in West Africa

Funded by the Government of France, IOM is leading a project under the umbrella of the PDD Workplan that aims to support States in West Africa in their efforts to minimize displacement and facilitate regular

111 <https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/guidance-mainstreaming-environmental-and-climate-considerations-reintegration-programming>.

112 www.innovasjon Norge.no/no/subsites/hipnorway/innovation-projects2/tackling-the-issue-of-solar-waste-in-refugee-settings/.

113 The Intergovernmental Authority on Development.

migration pathways in the context of disasters, climate change and environmental degradation. The project supports States in the region to implement their commitments as set out in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the African Union 3 Year Implementation Plan of Action for the Global Compact for Migration in Africa 2020–2022. The project is focused on three main pillars aligned with global policy priorities: 1) data and evidence, 2) policy dialogue, and 3) communication.

Diaspora and agroecology in Morocco

IOM is currently implementing a project on the diaspora's engagement in the development of agroecology in Morocco. Its goal is to advise and guide the Moroccan diaspora to invest in sustainable agricultural practices. In this project, profiles of diaspora returnees working in agroecology were identified, and the economic, social and environmental benefits of their projects were analysed. The ongoing project has demonstrated the potential for the diaspora to support development and increase food sovereignty and security in rural areas, thus helping create green job opportunities for the youth in marginalized territories.¹¹⁴

Diaspora and agroecology in Kolda, Senegal

In Kolda, a region in the south of Senegal, IOM developed a study on livelihood opportunities through climate-resilient practices for migrant returnees, entitled “Mainstreaming environmental dimensions into reintegration support to reduce the effects of climate change on migration in West Africa”. The case of Sow Ranch was noted as an example to follow. Its founder, Belal Sow, himself a returnee migrant from the Senegalese diaspora in the United States, transformed 10 hectares of degraded and abandoned land into a prosperous agroecological field, which also serves as a training centre, contributing to the economic empowerment of a village that suffered from rural exodus and youth unemployment.¹¹⁵

Project TUBEHONEYZA: Strengthening Resilience to Natural Disaster Risks in Burundi

Funded by the European Union and designed in coordination with OXFAM, this project implemented by IOM aims to support national and local efforts to strengthen the resilience of the Burundian population in the face of shocks. Specifically, the project will address disaster risks and disaster-related displacement through supporting the consolidation of the country's Disaster Risk Management system in collaboration with the Burundian National Platform for Risk Prevention and Disaster Management.¹¹⁶

Supporting pastoralist communities in the arid and semi-arid zones of Kenya¹¹⁷

IOM supports the nomadic pastoralist communities to protect traditional transhumance routes in the face of droughts, localized intergroup resource conflict and other obstacles to mobility (including within national borders). In the whole Sahel area, and specifically in north and north-east Kenya (an area impacted by droughts and variability of precipitations), IOM is promoting comprehensive support

114 IOM Migration and Agroecology in West Africa <https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/migration-and-agroecology-west-africa>.

115 Ibid.

116 <https://iomint.sharepoint.com/sites/TRDTeamSite2/DRR%20and%20Resilience/Forms/AllItems.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2FTRDTeamSite2%2FDRR%20and%20Resilience%2FIOM%20Project%20Examples%20%2D%20DRR%2C%20Resilience%2C%20Climate%2 Change%2FIOM%20Burundi%20%2D%20Resilience%20to%20Natural%20Disaster%20Risks%20%28DRR%29%20%2D%202020%2020%2020%20Epdf&parent=%2Fsites%2FTRDTeamSite2%2FDRR%20and%20Resilience%2FIOM%20Project%20Examples%20%2D%20DRR%2C%20Resilience%2C%20Climate%20Change>.

117 Internal Displacement in the Context of the Slow-Onset Adverse Effects of Climate Change - Submission by IOM to the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons.

to pastoralist communities, which have been negatively impacted by recurrent drought and erratic rainfall. Many of these communities have been put under additional strain by large refugee influxes from Somalia (notably following the 2011 drought). In partnership with other international agencies, IOM has provided extensive support to these communities to preserve their traditional mobility-based livelihood model (cattle herding) while also promoting income diversification to mitigate risk.

Waste Management Micro-Enterprise Program in Freetown, Sierra Leone

The City of Freetown's population is expected to double over the next decade due in great part to climate migration from across the country. Many of these rural migrants move into the city's informal settlements where they have limited access to water, sanitation, and jobs. In response, the Freetown City Council and Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr developed Transform Freetown Plan¹¹⁸ to address these intersectional dynamics in an integrated way, creating jobs for migrant youth and greening Freetown at the same time. In support of the goals this plan, in 2020, IOM partnered with Mayor Aki-Sawyerr to establish a Waste Management Micro Enterprise program to employ and provide entrepreneurship training to youth, the majority of whom are rural migrants. These young people are provided with motorized tricycles and business development training to establish sustainable waste-management micro-enterprises that in turn provide waste collection services for households across Freetown.¹¹⁹ In 2021, the project was expanded with support from the Mayors Migration Council's Global Cities Fund for Inclusive Pandemic Response, where the IOM serves as a Strategic Partner.¹²⁰ Through this local to global partnership, Freetown City Council created more than 1,200 green jobs for young people, offering an alternative to dangerous onward migration and mitigating environmental degradation within the city.

Enhancing protection and empowerment of migrants and communities affected by climate change and disasters in the Pacific region

As the lead agency of the joint-programme on Pacific Climate Change Migration-Human Security (PCCMHS) funded by the UN Trust Fund for Human Security, IOM partners with UNESCAP, ILO, OHCHR, PIFS and PDD. This project aims to develop a regional rights-based framework on climate-change related displacement, migration and planned relocation.

Pacific Response to Disaster Displacement

Under the EU-funded Pacific Response to Disaster Displacement (PRDD) Project, IOM, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) and PDD are working as implementing partners to generate new evidence to help governments better understand, plan for, prevent and respond to disaster displacement. This project looks to support regional and national efforts to reduce the risk and impact of disaster displacement on persons at risk of being displaced in developing small islands States in the Pacific. The project will contribute to better policy responses and disaster planning, as well as new and improved operational tools.

118 <https://fcc.gov.sl/transform-freetown/>.

119 www.iom.int/news/entrepreneurship-and-waste-management-sierra-leone-fight-unemployment-and-clean-cities.

120 www.mayorsmigrationcouncil.org/gcf-res/freetown-sierra-leone.

Vanuatu National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement

IOM worked with Vanuatu's National Disaster Management Office and the Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation in a participatory process to develop a National Policy¹²¹ on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement. The development of the policy was supported by the IOM Development Fund through a project entitled "Development of a National Framework for Durable Solutions in Vanuatu."

Strengthening Community Resilience to Disaster Displacement in Nepal

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority has expressed interest to strengthen its monitoring of displaced populations and IOM would be supporting in integrating DTM as the tool for the Government of Nepal in tracking displacement and the needs of displaced population across the country. IOM has responded to multiple large-scale disasters in Nepal – including the 2008 Koshi floods, 2015 earthquakes and 2017 floods. The project is funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).

Regional Dialogue to Address Human Mobility and Climate Change Adaptation in the Eastern Caribbean

Eastern Caribbean countries and territories are highly vulnerable to several environmental and climate hazards. In 2018, IOM carried out a Migration Governance Needs Assessment in the ten island States of the Commonwealth Caribbean that highlighted the limited integration of human mobility issues in climate change and disaster plans and strategies. This project builds a regional dialogue series in the Eastern Caribbean that enhance governments' capacities to collect, analyse and utilize data on human mobility and vulnerability derived from environmental change. The initiative supports efforts to integrate human mobility in climate change strategies and enables the development of evidence-based policies that strengthen the human security of vulnerable populations.

Women staying behind and climate change adaptation in Shahrituz, Tajikistan

As more men from rural areas seek employment opportunities away from home, women will have to manage new challenges, including climate change impacts. In Shahrituz district of Tajikistan, an IOM Development Fund-supported project on "Understanding the Nexus of Migration Gender, Climate Change and Agriculture" is assessing the effectiveness of developing capacities of women staying behind to enhance household-level climate change adaptation to drought and severe water shortage in Tajikistan. The project provides village-level training on financial literacy and climate change adaptation as well as advisory/ extension services to women staying behind. This capacity development will help the women beneficiaries to better manage risks and resources.

Diaspora and climate action, Kyrgyzstan

Since there are fiscal limitations to public spending on climate action in many countries, national governments use various instruments (policy, legal and financial) to also mobilize private capital. In Kyrgyzstan, an IOM Development Fund-supported project on "Leveraging Diaspora Funding for Climate Action" is helping to better understand how the psychological factors that shape adaptation behaviour influence the decisions of the Kyrgyz diaspora members or compatriots abroad to invest in and/or philanthropically support climate change adaptation in Kyrgyzstan. The findings will help to develop a Communication Strategy for Diaspora Engagement in Climate Finance.

121 www.iom.int/sites/default/files/press_release/file/iom-vanuatu-policy-climate-change-disaster-induced-displacement-2018.pdf.



KEY IOM RESOURCES

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IOM OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

Council documents related to the establishment of the Migration, environment and climate change Division

- **C/105/9** Original: English 6 October 2014 Council 105th Session - Programme and Budget for 2015
- **C/105/42** Original: English 21 November 2014 - Director General's Report to the 105th Session of the Council Mr William Lacy Swing 25–28 November 2014 Geneva
- **C/106/7** Original: English 7 October 2015 Council 106th Session - Programme and Budget for 2016
- **IOM Council Resolution No 1338** from 2016 (approving the report from the DG/including budget) - C/106/54/Rev.1
- **C/106/54/Rev.1** Original: English 9 January 2017 - Session Report on the 106th Session of the Council Geneva Tuesday, 24 November, to Friday, 27 November 2015
- Director General's Report to the 108th Session of the Council Mr William Lacy Swing, 28 November to 1 December 2017 Geneva

Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (SCPF), Council and International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) documents with climate change and environmental relevance

- Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (2019) - Update on Policies and Practices related to Migration, the Environment and Climate Change and IOM's Environmental Sustainability [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (2017) - Migration, the Environment and Climate Change at IOM: Taking Stock of Progress [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (2017) - IOM Framework for Addressing Internal Displacement [English](#)
- Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (2016) - Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Institutional Developments and Contributions to Policy Processes [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (2015) - Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Institutional Advances and Priorities for Policy Action [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (2014) - IOM's Role and Activities Relating to Migration, the Environment and Climate Change [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (2012) - IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (2011) - IOM's Role in the Humanitarian Response to Displacement Induced by Natural Disasters [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)

- Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (2008) - Migration and the Environment [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- IOM Council 2019 High Level Panel on Mobility dynamics in the Sahel/110th Session of the Council [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- IOM Council 2017 High Level panel “[Identify and assess opportunities to address migration and climate change in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular migration](#)”/108th Session of the IOM Council in Geneva/
- IOM Council 2016 High Level Panel C/107/31 Original: English 19 December 2017 - Report on the 107th Session of the Council Geneva Monday, 5 December, to Thursday, 8 December 2016 [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- IOM Council 2015 106th Session C/106/CRP/20 IOM’s Humanitarian Policy – Principles for Humanitarian Action [English](#)
- IOM Council 2015 High Level Panel; DG C/106/54/ Rev.1 Original: English 9 January 2017 Report on the 106th Session of the Council Geneva, Tuesday, 24 November, to Friday, 27 November 2015
- IOM Council 2014 High level panel C/105/49/ Rev.1 Original: English 4 January 2016 - Report on the 105th Session of the Council Geneva Tuesday, 25 November, to Friday, 28 November 2014
- IOM Council Focus on Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC) at the 105th IOM Council (2014)
- IOM Council Discussion note: Migration and the Environment (2007) [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- International Dialogue on Migration, No 21 (2012)- *Protecting Migrants during Times of Crisis: Immediate Responses and Sustainable Strategies* [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- International Dialogue on Migration, No 20 (2012)- *Moving to Safety: Migration Consequences of Complex Crises* [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- International Dialogue on Migration, No 18 (2011)- *Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration* [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)
- International Dialogue on Migration, No 10 (2008) - *Expert Seminar: Migration and the Environment* [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#)



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