

# IOM ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF THE PLATFORM ON DISASTER DISPLACEMENT WORKPLAN, 1 JULY 2016 – 30 JUNE 2017

---

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is committed to support the implementation of the 2015 Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda recommendations and the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) Strategic Framework and Workplan 2016-2019, which are both in line with IOM's longstanding work on migration, environment and climate change (MECC) and its operational activities on migration management, including in the context of disasters.<sup>1</sup>

IOM has an extensive portfolio of activities in migration and displacement management in the context of environmental change, climate change and disasters, with focus on data collection and research, disaster risk reduction and prevention, displacement management, labour mobility, and policy development, with capacity to implement projects in all regions of the world.<sup>2</sup> Since the start of the work of the PDD on 1 July 2016, IOM has dedicated its expertise to many activities supporting the four PDD Strategic Priorities.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: ADDRESS KNOWLEDGE AND DATA GAPS

### IOM's activities as part of the implementation of the PDD Workplan

IOM contributed to setting up the PDD Data and Knowledge Working Group (DKWG) and IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) submitted a proposal for a session addressing gaps in this area at the International Forum on Migration Statistics in 2018 in Paris, France (Workplan output 1.1).

IOM started an assessment exercise to formulate recommendations on how to improve existing capacity to collect disaster and climate change displacement data (Workplan output 1.3).

IOM has worked with UNHCR and UN Environment to ensure coordination of, and synergies between, respective research efforts on climate-related migration in the Lake Chad region (Workplan output 1.6).

### Other IOM activities of relevance to the PDD Workplan

IOM deploys its [Displacement Tracking Matrix \(DTM\)](#)<sup>3</sup> in contexts of disasters to help identify vulnerable displaced populations and provide them with adequate support. The DTM data can also help build global evidence on disaster displacement and is used by IDMC for their annual Global Estimates. IOM has recently deployed the DTM in Peru and Colombia following the disasters that struck those two countries (of relevance to Workplan output 1.3).

IOM is implementing several regional and national-level projects contributing to [enhancing knowledge on the migration-environment nexus](#), including in Madagascar, Mozambique, Mauritius, Namibia, based on

---

<sup>1</sup> IOM and PDD: <http://www.environmentalmigration.iom.int/platform-disaster-displacement>.

<sup>2</sup> IOM Environmental Migration Portal: <http://www.environmentalmigration.iom.int/>.

<sup>3</sup> IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM): <http://www.globaldtm.info/>.

the methodologies developed under the 2014-2016 EU-funded “Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Evidence for Policy” (MECLEP) Project<sup>4</sup> (of relevance to Workplan output 1.6).

IOM promotes the [consolidation of existing knowledge and data sources](#) on migration, environment and climate change through its Environmental Migration Portal and the GMDAC’s Global Migration Data Portal<sup>5</sup>, funded by the Government of Germany, which will include a page on data on migration and the environment.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: ENHANCE THE USE OF IDENTIFIED EFFECTIVE PRACTICES

### IOM’s activities as part of the implementation of the PDD Workplan

IOM provided support to the launch of the ‘*Guide to Effective Practices for RCM Member Countries: protection for persons moving across borders in the context of disasters*’ in November 2016 through the RCM Secretariat and with technical and administrative support from the IOM Regional Office in Costa Rica. IOM supported the development and roll-out of a follow-up regional capacity building workshop for RCM Member Countries scheduled to take place in August 2017, based on IOM’s extensive training material and experience on migration, environment, climate change and displacement management (Workplan output 2.1).

IOM supported and attended the first bi-national workshop on cross-border disaster-displacement between Costa Rica and Panama in March 2017 and will support the follow-up simulation exercise in August 2017 (Workplan output 2.1).

IOM provided support to Georgetown University and UNHCR for the development of the ‘Guidance on Protecting People from Disasters and Environmental Change through Planned Relocations’ and is supporting its operationalization. Together with UNHCR, IOM co-hosted a consultation on the Guidance with States and partners in May 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland (Workplan output 2.6).

IOM, with funding from the Government of France, developed a project in West Africa addressing both community stabilization and reintegration of returning migrants through climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction initiatives, scheduled to start in September 2017 (Workplan output 2.7).

### Other IOM activities of relevance to the PDD Workplan

IOM conducted four national [MECC capacity-building workshops for policymakers](#) in 2017 in Madagascar, Ghana, Namibia, and Mozambique, and three in 2016 in Mauritius, San Remo and Côte d’Ivoire, all of which addressed disaster displacement and introduced the PDD (of relevance to Workplan output 2.5).

Funded through the International Development Fund (IDF), IOM is developing a [two-year project in the Pacific](#), focusing on facilitating labour mobility as an adaptation strategy in the Pacific (Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Tonga and Tuvalu) (of relevance to Workplan output 2.7).

---

<sup>4</sup> IOM MECLEP Project : <http://environmentalmigration.iom.int/migration-environment-and-climate-change-evidence-policy-meclep>

<sup>5</sup> Global Migration Data Portal: <https://gmdac.iom.int/global-migration-data-portal>

Through the Global Migration Group (GMG), IOM together with UNDP developed a *'Guidance Note on Integrating Migration and Displacement in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs)'*, including a chapter on *'Climate Change, the Environment and Human Mobility'* to be published and distributed to UN Country Teams in July-August 2017 (Workplan output 2.4).

Overall, since 1998, IOM has implemented over 800 projects addressing climate change and disaster displacement, including disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, community stabilization, prevention, preparedness, post-disaster and emergency response<sup>6</sup> (of relevance to Workplan outputs 2.4, 2.5, 2.7, 2.8).

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 3 AND 4: PROMOTE POLICY COHERENCE AND POLICY AND NORMATIVE DEVELOPMENT

### IOM's activities as part of the implementation of the PDD Workplan

IOM supported the preparations of a thematic meeting on climate change and human mobility of the Regional Consultative Process in the IGAD region (IGAD-RCP), to take place in July 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya. The IOM Special Liaison Office in Addis Ababa as well as IOM Nairobi, with assistance from IOM MECC, will contribute with IOM's experience and best practices on MECC-related issues to the discussion (Workplan output 4.1).

IOM helped prepare and provided visibility to PDD in key policy processes (Workplan output 3.8), such as:

- The 107<sup>th</sup> IOM Council high-level thematic session 'Opportunities for Policy Development to Address Climate Migration and Cross-Border Disaster Displacement' in December 2016, chaired by the IOM Deputy Director General, and with the participation of the PDD Chair and PDD Adviser.
- The process of developing the Global Compact for Migration, through references to disaster displacement and PDD in issue briefs and other thematic papers to which IOM contributes;
- The Cancun Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in May 2017, where IOM had official speaking roles and also provided assistance for the PDD side event, Ignite presentation, and speed networking event, among others.
- The Pan African Forum on Migration in May 2017, where IOM ensured a speaking role for PDD.
- The ECOSOC HAS High-Level Panel 'Addressing humanitarian challenges linked to disaster and climate change induced mobility' in June 2017, where the IOM Deputy Director General presented; IOM also contributed to the afferent PDD booth.
- Other events, including: the Global Forum for Migration and Development (GFMD) in Dhaka and Rabat, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Conference of the Parties of UNFCCC in November 2016, and the UNHCR Executive Committee meeting in October 2016.

<sup>6</sup> For more information, please refer to the *Compendium of IOM's Activities in Migration, Climate Change and the Environment* (2009), the *Compendium of IOM Activities in Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience* (2013) and *Taking Sendai Forward: IOM Strategic Work Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience 2017 – 2020* (2017).

### Other IOM activities of relevance to the PDD Workplan

IOM provides policy and technical support to the UNFCCC on climate, migration and displacement since 2009. IOM supported the UNFCCC Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM) in organizing a technical meeting in Casablanca in July 2016, and became a member of the [Task Force on Displacement](#) under the WIM as invited by the UNFCCC (of relevance to Workplan output 3.2).

IOM actively promoted inclusion of displacement-related issues at the [Cancun Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction](#), also through support to PDD (of relevance to Workplan output 3.4).

IOM provided inputs to [Human Rights Council](#) negotiations and the 2017 resolution on Climate Change and Human Rights (of relevance to Workplan outputs 3.6 and 4.4).

IOM supported the preparations for the [GFMD](#) meeting on climate change and mobility in Rabat, Morocco in May 2017 (of relevance to Workplan outputs 3.8 and 4.1).

IOM supports the work on the development of the [Global Compact on Migration](#) (background papers, issue briefs, and support to thematic sessions) (of relevance to Workplan output 4.1).

In [Vanuatu](#), IOM worked with the Government to support the development of a [National Displacement Policy](#) to help minimize and manage displacement from sudden and slow-onset disasters (of relevance to Workplan output 4.3).

## COMMUNICATION

All throughout the contributions to the PDD Workplan activities, IOM communicated on and promoted the work of the PDD and aimed to increase awareness of disaster displacement as well as the related protection gap. Important communication vehicles in the reporting period were (Workplan Output 3.9):

- The IOM Environmental Migration Portal, which includes a [page dedicated to the PDD and its work](#). It details recent activities and events, offers a library of key and relevant documents, and since its creation in October 2016 and until 30 June 2017 it has been accessed more than 650 times.
- The IOM Migration, Environment and Climate Change Newsletter, which is sent out on a monthly-basis, has included 6 articles on PDD's work and the issue of disaster displacement.
- Information about the PDD was communicated through IOM institutional information material, publications and in IOM articles published in external journals and publications.
- Several social media campaigns were led by IOM on PDD-related issues, including around COP22, IOM's 107<sup>th</sup> Council, the Global Compact for Migration process, and the Cancun Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- IOM has also participated in PDD events or promoted PDD at external and internal events, both at high level and expert level, amounting to more than 30 representation occasions.