

## CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION TO THE PLATFORM ON DISASTER DISPLACEMENT



### Context and Partnership

IOM provided active support to the Nansen Initiative from 2012 to 2015 and supported the endorsement in 2015 of the Nansen Initiative Agenda for the protection of cross-border displaced persons in the context of disasters and climate change.

In 2016, the Governments of Germany and Bangladesh launched the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) to follow up on the work started by the Nansen Initiative and to implement the recommendations of the Protection Agenda.

The Platform is directed by a Steering Group consisting, at the moment, of 17 Member States and the European Union, and follows a Workplan for 2016-2019 covering several thematic areas, including humanitarian assistance and protection, refugee protection, migration management, disaster risk reduction, climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable development, and human rights.

Within the established structure by the Government of Germany, IOM was invited to join the Platform's Steering Group as a Standing Invitee, and to become a member of its Advisory Committee. In addition, through the generous support of Germany for a staff in IOM specifically dedicated to working with the Platform, IOM was able to support directly the implementation of a number of activities contained in the Platform's Workplan.

IOM's activities in support of the Platform are in line with IOM's longstanding work on migration, environment, disasters and climate change, and are based on its research, policy and operational work in the context of disasters and climate change conducted since the 1990s.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> For more information on the work of IOM on Migration, Environment and Climate Change, please visit the IOM Environmental Migration Portal: <http://www.environmentalmigration.iom.int/>.

## Examples of Activities

The Workplan of the Platform on Disaster Displacement, endorsed by its Steering Group in January 2017, is built on the Platform's four strategic priorities:

- 1) Address knowledge and data gaps
- 2) Enhance the use of identified effective practices
- 3) Promote policy coherence and mainstreaming of human mobility challenges in, and across, relevant policy and action areas
- 4) Promote policy and normative development in gap areas

IOM offers its support to the implementation of more than half of some 80 activities listed in the Workplan and takes the lead on 16 of them, particularly in areas such as collecting and analyzing data, implementing projects linking migration management and climate change adaptation, capacity building of policymakers, and supporting policy development.<sup>2</sup>

### Strategic Priority 1: Address knowledge and data gaps

- ✓ IOM, together with IDMC, is leading the PDD Data and Knowledge Working Group.
- ✓ With the support of its Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) based in Berlin, IOM organized a first meeting of quantitative data researchers addressing migration and the environment at the International Forum on Migration Statistics (IFMS) in Paris, France in January 2018.

### Strategic Priority 3: Promote policy coherence and mainstreaming of human mobility challenges in, and across, relevant policy and action areas

- ✓ IOM plays an active support role to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat to help integrate migration considerations within climate change negotiations. Since January 2017, IOM is member of the Task Force on Displacement under the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism. In this role, IOM also seeks to promote the recommendations of the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda.
- ✓ IOM has a support role in the process towards the adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration and promotes the inclusion of climate change considerations in the future global compact.

### Strategic Priority 2: Enhance the use of identified effective practices

- ✓ IOM, through its role as the Secretariat for the Regional Conference on Migration for Central and North America (RCM), supported the launch of the *Guide to Effective Practices for RCM Member Countries: protection for persons moving across borders in the context of disasters*. A regional capacity building workshop for policymakers from RCM Member Countries was organized by IOM and PDD in August 2017.
- ✓ IOM, with funding from the Government of France, developed a project in West Africa linking reintegration of returning migrants and climate change adaptation.

### Strategic Priority 4: Promote policy and normative development in gap areas

- ✓ IOM has dedicated high-level panels at the occasion of its annual Council meetings in 2016 and 2017. In 2017, Mr. Nicolas Hulot, Minister of State, Minister for Ecological and Inclusive Transition of France, contributed to the high-level panel looking at the *Opportunities to Address Migration and Climate Change in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration*.
- ✓ Through its role as secretariat for several regional consultative processes on migration, IOM promotes inter-state dialogue and policy development related to displacement in the context of disasters and climate change.

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<sup>2</sup> For more information on IOM's work in support of the Platform on Disaster Displacement, please visit: <http://environmentalmigration.iom.int/platform-disaster-displacement>