



International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
The UN Migration Agency

# IOM ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF THE PLATFORM ON DISASTER DISPLACEMENT WORKPLAN, 1 JULY 2017 – 30 JUNE 2018

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The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is committed to support the implementation of the 2015 Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda recommendations and of 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 on migration and displacement management in the context of environmental change, climate change and disasters, with focus on data collection and research and policy development, disaster risk reduction and prevention, displacement management, labour mobility, migration in the context of climate change, and 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 a large number of activities within the four PDD Strategic Priorities, contributing to over 40 activities from the some 80 listed in the PDD workplan and leading on over 20 of them.

IOM's support to the PDD implementation was ensured through the work of the dedicated PDD Programme Officer and Research Officer, both funded by the former Chair of the PDD (Federal Government of Germany), as well as by the continued contributions of the Migration, Environment and Climate Change Division at IOM headquarters, and IOM offices worldwide.

The Organization has reported on its PDD engagement yearly to its Governing Bodies at the Standing Committee of Programmes and Finances (SCPF) and Council at the request of its member states.

This document provides an overview of key activities conducted by IOM to support the implementation of the outputs of the PDD workplan in the reporting period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

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<sup>1</sup> For more information on IOM's programme of work on Migration, Environment and Climate Change please refer to the brochure "IOM's Engagement in Migration Environment and Climate" (2018): [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mecc\\_infosheet\\_2018.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mecc_infosheet_2018.pdf) and the IOM Outlook on Migration, Environment and Climate Change (2014): [http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mecc\\_outlook.pdf](http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mecc_outlook.pdf).

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



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: ADDRESS KNOWLEDGE AND DATA GAPS

Since July 2017, IOM:

1. **Supported the establishment and launch of PDD Data and Knowledge Working Group (DKWG)**, with IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) acting as the co-chair of the Group together with IDMC (Workplan output 1.1).
2. Together with the Federal Foreign Office and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany, **organized a debate on "Disaster and Climate-induced Displacement and Mobility – Challenge of the 21st century"** in Berlin, Germany in August 2017 as part of the *Migration and Development Debate Series*, where the PDD Coordination Unit Head intervened as keynote speaker (Workplan output 1.1).
3. **Strengthened research partnerships on disaster displacement in South America** through participation and representation of PDD in the workshop on "Human mobility, natural disasters and climate change in Latin America" organized by the GIZ and the Andean University Simon Bolivar in Quito, Ecuador in November 2017 (Workplan output 1.1).
4. **Organized the Session on "Measuring the migration-environment nexus: State of the Art"** at the International Forum on Migration Statistics in January 2018 in Paris, France, led by IOM GMDAC (Workplan output 1.1).
5. **Contributed to the study on "Slow onset effects of climate change and human rights protection for cross-border migrants"** led by OHCHR and supported by PDD, released in March 2018 (Workplan output 1.6).
6. **Organized, together with IDMC, the PDD DKWG expert meeting** on "Improving data on human mobility, environment and climate change: Priorities for action" in April 2018 in Berlin, Germany, hosted by IOM GMDAC (Workplan output 1.1).
7. **Produced study reviewing IOM's existing efforts and capacities for data collection** and research on disaster displacement and migration in the context of climate change, and identifying ways to strengthen this work (Workplan output 1.2).
8. **Enhanced internal collaboration with IOM experts in charge of data collection and research** to integrate more climate-related indicators into IOM's existing data collection methodologies and tools (Workplan output 1.3).
9. **Coordinated research efforts with UNHCR and UN Environment on climate-related migration in the Lake Chad region** (Workplan output 1.6).



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

Since July 2017, IOM:

1. **Organized and delivered the IOM-PDD “Capacity building workshop on disaster displacement, migration and climate change for RCM Member Countries”** to support the roll-out of the “Guide to Effective Practices for RCM Member Countries: protection for persons moving across borders in the context of disasters” in San José, Costa Rica on 8-9 August 2017, funded by the Government of Switzerland (Workplan output 2.1).
2. **Provided expert contributions, technical support and participated in the first PDD bi-national simulation exercise on cross-border disaster-displacement between Costa Rica and Panama** on 20-21 August 2017 in Sabalito de Cruz, Costa Rica/Panama (Workplan output 2.1).
3. **Jointly organized the “Regional Knowledge Forum on Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change Adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Hindu Kush Himalaya”**, with the Ministry of Population and Environment (MoPE) of the Government of Nepal, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), the Nepal Institute of Development Studies (NIDS) and PDD in Kathmandu, Nepal on 14-15 September 2017 (Workplan Output 2.5).
4. **Organized and delivered the IOM-PDD “Pacific Regional Capacity Building Workshop on Human Mobility in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change”** in Suva, Fiji on 13-14 February 2018, with funding from the Government of Switzerland (Workplan output 2.5).
5. Organized the **“High-Level Workshop: Human Mobility and Disasters in the Caribbean Region”** in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on 10-11 April 2018, where PDD was invited to lead a session on “Towards better protection for persons displaced in the context of disasters and climate change” (Workplan output 2.5).
6. **Contributed to developing and promoting the use of guidance on planned relocation** in collaboration with Georgetown University and UNHCR, including by **operationalizing the toolbox “Planning Relocations to Protect People from Disasters and Environmental Change”** through dissemination in countries engaging in planned relocation<sup>3</sup> and through the co-organization and expert contributions to a Regional Workshop on Planned Relocations in Costa Rica, on 2-3 May 2018. (Workplan output 2.6).

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<sup>3</sup> In particular, in Vanuatu and Viet Nam as part of IOM’s policy support to governments. In Viet Nam, IOM developed a national training manual on planned relocation for local authorities, building on the Toolbox and past IOM consultations and field work: [www.environmentalmigration.iom.int/planned-relocation-communities-context-environmental-change-and-climate-change](http://www.environmentalmigration.iom.int/planned-relocation-communities-context-environmental-change-and-climate-change).



7. **Developed a project addressing both community stabilization and reintegration of returning migrants through climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in West Africa**, with funding from the Government of France launched in May 2018 (Workplan output 2.7).
8. **Organized a Hard Talk on “Protection in Natural Disaster Situations” at the Global Protection Cluster Conference** in May 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand bringing together field practitioners to discuss and share experience on integrating and mainstreaming protection of displaced populations in disaster preparedness and response activities (Workplan output 2.8).
9. **Organized and delivered, through IOM’s MICIC capacity building programme, a workshop for policymakers in Mexico City, Mexico together with PDD** entitled “Taller sobre prevención, asistencia y colaboración a personas migrantes en el contexto de desastres naturales” on 6-7 June 2018 (Workplan output 2.5).
10. Contributed to the **“Regional Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction, Preparedness and Disaster Displacement”** in Bohol, Philippines on 19-21 June 2018 organized by the Government of the Philippines, PDD and UNISDR (Workplan output 2.4).
11. **Provided thematic advice and support to IOM national offices in the development of project proposals** focusing on climate and disaster related migration and displacement in line with the recommendation of the Nansen Agenda (Workplan outputs 2.4-2.7).
12. Contributed to **raising awareness on internal displacement in the context of disasters** as part of activities around the 2017 International Day for Disaster Reduction and around the 20th anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (Workplan output 2.8).

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

Key activities and events supported by IOM since July 2017:

### GLOBAL POLICY PROCESSES

1. **Joint work geared towards the process of developing the Global Compact for Migration** through:
  - a. references to disaster displacement, Nansen Protection Agenda and PDD in IOM institutional papers, UNSG submissions and other thematic papers to which IOM contributes;



- b. contributions to the PDD GCM/GCR Working Group;
  - c. contributed to PDD States and civil society briefings;
  - d. IOM invited PDD to the IOM regional GCM briefing for Pacific States in Suva, Fiji, on 15 February 2018;
  - e. IOM addressed the topic at the IOM Briefings on Climate Change and Migration for Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in New York, USA on 30-31 May 2018 (Workplan output 4.1).
2. **Joint work within the framework of UNFCCC:**
- a. IOM and PDD on behalf of the Task Force on Displacement established by the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM), jointly organized the Stakeholder Meeting on “Recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change”, on 14-15 May 2018;
  - b. IOM jointly organized and supported events with PDD, UNHCR, NRC, IDMC in 2017 and 2018 UNFCCC negotiations, in particular, at the 23rd Conference of the Parties of UNFCCC in November 2017 (Workplan output 3.2).
3. **Words into Action Guide:** Active technical and policy contributions to the development of the Guide aimed at implementing the Sendai Framework on “Disaster Displacement: How to Reduce Risk, Address Impacts and Strengthen Resilience” together with NRC, PDD, IDMC, UNHCR and UNISDR, in late 2017 (Workplan output 3.4).
4. **OHCHR’s work on human rights and climate change:** expert review of the research on human rights protection gaps commissioned by the Human Rights Council 35/20 resolution; contribution to the 37th Human Rights Council Intersessional Panel Discussion on human rights, climate change, migrants and persons displaced across international borders on 6 October 2017 (Workplan output 3.6 and 4.4).
5. **UNHCR’s work on international protection and climate change:**
- a. IOM contributed to the Tenth High Commissioner’s Dialogue on Protection Challenges, Session 4: Contemporary protection challenges, in December 2017.;
  - b. attended the UNHCR NGO Consultation side-event on “Protection for people displaced in the context of climate change and disasters” on 29 June 2018;
  - c. contributed to the UNHCR Executive Committee meeting in October 2017 (Workplan output 3.8).

## REGIONALLY FOCUSED ACTIVITIES



1. **Supported two thematic meetings on climate change and human mobility at the 9th and 10th Regional Consultative Process in the IGAD region (IGAD-RCP)**, on 27-28 July 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya and on 30 November-1 December 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The IOM Special Liaison Office in Addis Ababa as well as IOM Nairobi, with assistance from IOM MECC Division in Headquarters, contributed with IOM's experience and best practices on MECC-related issues to the discussion, and participated in the review of the study commissioned by the IGAD (Workplan output 4.1).
2. **Supported and provided expert contributions to the South American Conference on Migration (SACM) meetings in support of the development of a regional Guide to Effective Practices on Admission and Stay:** "Taller regional para el desarrollo de Lineamientos y/o Guía de prácticas para la protección para personas desplazadas entre fronteras en el contexto de desastres" in Santiago de Chile, Chile on 30-31 October 2017 and "La inclusión e integración de las personas migrantes más allá de las fronteras territoriales" on 14-16 November 2017, in Montevideo, Uruguay (Workplan Output 4.2).
3. Contributed to the panel on "Human Mobility and Displacement due to Natural Disasters and the Adverse Impacts of Climate Change" together with PDD at the "**VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas**" in Cartagena, Colombia on 20-22 June 2018 (Workplan output 3.4).

## **COORDINATED CONTRIBUTIONS TO OTHER EVENTS/PROCESSES, INCLUDING:**

1. The "**High-level Forum on the Situation of Irregular Migrant Flows in the Americas**" on 12-13 September 2017 in San José, Costa Rica (Workplan output 3.8);
2. The **ODI-Chatham House "Forum on Refugee and Migration Policy"** on 7 November 2017 in London, United Kingdom (Workplan output 3.8);
3. The **Stockholm Environment Institute "Roundtable on Displacement in the Context of Disasters - working with the Protection Agenda in Southeast Asia"** in December 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand (Workplan output 3.8);
4. The **2018 Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW)** in February 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland (Workplan output 3.5);
5. The **2018 International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights Panel on "Climate Refugees": Drop the quotation marks!** on 14 March 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland (Workplan output 3.6);
6. The **2017-2018 Global Forum for Migration and Development (GFMD)** in Rabat, Morocco and Berlin, Germany (Workplan output 4.1);



7. The **2018 ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment** High Level Panel discussion on “Addressing the challenges, risks and impacts of extreme weather events and climate change on the most vulnerable” on 21 June 2018 in New York, USA (Workplan output 3.5);
8. The **20th Anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (GP20)** and the GP20 Strategy and Plan of Action (Workplan output 3.6);
9. **IOM’s annual reporting against the commitments made at the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS)** included achievements and progress on the implementation of PDD-related activities (Workplan output 3.5).

## DIRECT SUPPORT AND MAINSTREAMING

1. The **2017 PDD Advisory Committee meeting**: Technical and expert inputs and organizational support to the meeting in October 2017 (Workplan output 3.1).
2. The **108th IOM Council high-level panel “Opportunities to Address Migration and Climate Change in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration”** on 30 November 2017, with the participation of PDD Steering Group Members Fiji and France, and UNFCCC, UN Environment and civil society (Workplan output 3.8)
3. **IOM’s Standing Committee in 2017**: Reported on collaboration and PDD related deliverables S/21/7/October 2017 (Workplan output 3.8).

## COMMUNICATION

All throughout the contributions to the PDD Workplan activities, IOM communicated on and promoted the joint work of IOM and 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):

1. The **IOM Environmental Migration Portal**, features a **page dedicated to the PDD** and its work. It details recent activities and events, offers a library of key relevant documents, and since 1 July 2017 and until 30 June 2018 it has been accessed more than 1,400 times.
2. The **IOM Migration, Environment and Climate Change Newsletter**, which is sent out on a monthly basis, has included more than 18 articles on PDD’s work and the issue of disaster displacement in the reporting period.



3. Information about the PDD was communicated through **IOM institutional material and publications**<sup>4</sup> and in IOM articles published in external journals and publications.
4. Several **social media campaigns** were carried out by IOM on PDD-related issues through IOM's Environmental Migration and IOM's main accounts which have respectively over 4,300 and 91,300 followers, including around regional workshops, the International Day for Disaster Reduction, COP23, IOM's 108<sup>th</sup> Council, the Task Force on Displacement and the GCM process.
5. At the occasion of the IOM 108<sup>th</sup> Council and the GCM Stocktaking Consultation in Puerto Vallarta, IOM produced a **video promoting policy coherence across climate change and migration policies, with the participation of high level speakers, including Minister Nicolas Hulot, Amb. William Lacy Swing, Amb. Nazhat Shameem Khan and Prof. Walter Kaelin.**
6. IOM also contributed to the PDD 'micro-trottoir'/vox pop **video on "What Day is October 13?"** at the occasion of the International Day for Disaster Reduction.
7. 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 50 representation occasions.**

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<sup>4</sup> All IOM publications on migration, environment and climate change are available online: [www.environmentalmigration.iom.int/iom-publications](http://www.environmentalmigration.iom.int/iom-publications).