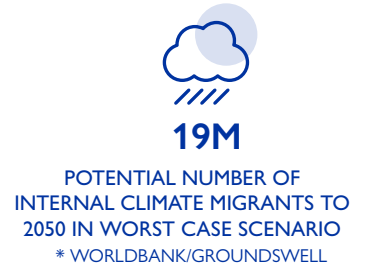


■ IOM Presence ■ MECC-DRR Programming

This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM. Source Data: IOM

MAIN HAZARDS

- » Risk to food security, risk of malnutrition (micronutrient deficiency), and loss of livelihood due to reduced food production from crops, livestock and fisheries
- » Increased risk to water and energy security due to drought and heat
- » Reduced economic output and growth, and increased inequality and poverty rates



MAIN CLIMATE IMPACTS

- #### MAIN CLIMATE IMPACTS
- » Increasing adverse impacts on displacement
 - » Increasing adverse impacts from flood/storm induced damages in coastal areas
 - » Increasing adverse impacts due to damages to infrastructure
 - » Increasing adverse impacts due to damages to key economic sectors
 - » Increasing adverse impacts from water scarcity
 - » Increasing adverse impacts from agriculture/crop production

CLIMATE MOBILITY PROFILE IN THE REGION

What the Science Says: Climate induced mobility in the Middle East and North Africa Region

Countries in the Middle East and North Africa are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts including extremely high temperatures, limited groundwater and rainfall, scarce agricultural and arable land, high urbanization rate and varying adaptive capacity. Due to the combination of water and precipitation scarcity, demographic pressures and population concentration, MENA is the most water-stressed area in the world with 14 out of 25 extremely high water stressed countries located in the region ([the World Resources Institute, 2023](#)). Climate change impacts are expected to accelerate and intensify further in the near future, amplifying those stressors already at play. Evidence collected by the IPCC confirms an overall warming process, both in terms of annual and seasonal average temperatures, number of days with heat waves and the drop in precipitation in recent decades. According to the IDMC, lack of rain also fuelled wildfires across the region, which triggered more displacements than in previous years. The region is also projected to experience future drying trends and temperatures increasing at a faster rate than the global average with increasing risk of heat waves.

The region, which plays host to extensive semi-arid and desert areas, is becoming drier, exposed to peaks of extremely high temperatures and to water crises. The consequences are likely to be severe, not only for economic activities but also for health and human life. The consequences also have implications for peace and stability in the region, as the region includes a number of fragile and conflict-affected

countries. The climate change-fragility nexus and its linkage with human mobility is increasingly gaining attention in climate change discussions. The IPCC 2022 report calls for further research on the interactions between climate change and peacebuilding, as climate change impacts are likely to undermine human security, which could have significant implications for peace and stability. The COP 27 Presidency launched the Climate Responses for Sustaining Peace (CRSP) initiative to ensure integrated climate responses for sustainable peace and development in line with national ownership and context specificity, and the initiative includes "Advancing durable solutions for the climate-displacement nexus" as one of its key pillars.

According to IDMC's data, as of late 2022, floods were the primary cause of disaster-displacement, forcing 209,000 people to move internally across the MENA region, followed by earthquakes and storms. More recently, an estimated 44,862 individuals have been displaced by the flooding in Northeast Libya according to IOM's latest Displacement Tracking Matrix report. Morocco's 6.8 magnitude earthquake that hit the High Atlas Mountains in September 2023 led to 145,695 disaster-displacements (IDMC). In Iraq, IOM is monitoring the situation of climate-induced displacement due to drought conditions since 2018. As of 15 September 2023, 21,798 families (130,788 individuals) remain displaced because of drought conditions across 12 governorates. Nevertheless, systematic monitoring of displacement related to these phenomena is highly limited in most countries in the region.

CASE STUDY

Integrating migration considerations into local policy and planning on climate change in Morocco

Morocco is highly vulnerable to climate change due to its mostly arid climate, high-water scarcity profile, high dependency on climate-sensitive industries especially agriculture, and population concentrations in urban areas. The effects of climate change on human mobility are a growing concern in the country, especially rural-urban migration due to climate change impacts on rural livelihoods while the data remains scarce on this area in Morocco. Therefore, understanding the linkage between climate change and environmental degradation, human security, and its impact on mobility dynamics is crucial for informed and evidence-based policies and programming.

IOM is supporting the government of Morocco in the regions of Tangier-Tétouan-Al Hoceima and Souss-Massa to ensure the integration of migration and gender considerations into territorial policy and planning on climate change by improving the knowledge, strengthening the capacity, and providing advocacy tools on the linkages between migration and climate change aimed at government actors and stakeholders.

CASE STUDY

Understanding the Climate Change, Migration, Water Scarcity and Conflict Nexus through a regional study in Libya and Sudan

In Libya and Sudan, the on-going conflict and fragility amplify the adverse effects of climate change at individual and community levels by further deteriorating their vulnerabilities. Combined with other mobility drivers, such fragility and insecurity are observed as among the push factors (IOM, 2023). The influx of internally displaced persons and refugees in host communities, coupled with the resulting strain on limited natural resources, particularly water scarcity, serves as a catalyst for communal strife and conflicts.

IOM, through a comprehensive regional study based on primary and secondary data, enriched the understanding of the interlinkages between water scarcity as a manifested impact of climate change, conflict and migration with Libya and Sudan as the focused countries. The study revealed that contextual factors such as social, economic, and political dynamics, governance abilities and justice capabilities amplify or moderate the interlinkages. Resource scarcity can lead to conflict and migration when crisis governance is unable to sustain fragile livelihoods and coordinate distributional and ecological solutions. Structural factors like tribal tensions and economic hardship further add to these vulnerabilities. Moreover, forced displacements and confrontations between migrants and receiving populations render conflict and migration mutually reinforcing. Simultaneously, conflict and migration alter the structural contexts within which they are embedded and influence households', communities' and governments' resilience by straining and enhancing their crisis management and adaptation capacities.

WAY FORWARD

Moving forward, IOM is increasing efforts to sensitize regional governments and stakeholders to human mobility issues linked to climate change and environmental degradation. In Iraq, IOM produced a Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC) country profile and policy brief for increased engagement with the government. IOM produced MECC country reports in Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia and is also undertaking the production of MECC country reports for Jordan, Libya, Tunisia, and Yemen.

As part of its advocacy efforts for greater recognition of the linkages between climate change and human mobility including migration as an adaptation strategy at COP28 and relevant fora, IOM is developing a series of policy briefs and advocacy tools on the intersection of protection, gender and human mobility in the context of climate change, as well as on the interplay between skills-based labour mobility and climate change in the MENA region. IOM is also expanding its engagement to policy and capacity building related work in the region by applying a cross-thematic approach.

There is a growing interest in the nexus between climate change, migration, and health in the region due to extreme heat that is already causing serious health impacts. IOM convened a first of its kind Gulf subregional workshop on the interlinkages of climate change, migration and health and their impacts on host societies and temporary contractual workers in Kuwait, which resulted in a set of 11 recommendations. Similarly, IOM, jointly with WHO, organized an event during MENA Climate Week 2023 on addressing health impacts of climate change on vulnerable segments of the society with particular focus on migrants and other mobile populations in the MENA region. The [Thematic Track statement](#) at the end of the MENA Climate Week highlighted “the need for inclusive healthcare policies and practices” in line with the key messages of the IOM-WHO joint event. Building on earlier engagement, IOM is leading the drafting of a chapter dedicated to “Climate Change-Disaster-Human Mobility Nexus” of the second edition of the [Regional Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction \(RAR\)](#) for the Arab States, coordinated by UNDRR. IOM also developed a strategic workshop on “A Comprehensive Approach to Disaster Displacement in the Middle East and North Africa” to build the capacities of IOM Staff on disaster displacement through multi-programmatic approaches across the region. Furthermore, IOM supported North African Member States to take part in the negotiations and discussions of the Continental Addendum to the Kampala Ministerial Declaration on Migration, Environment and Climate Change (KDMECC-Africa) and will continue to support its signatory parties with necessary technical assistance for implementation.

Regarding youth engagement, IOM also supported youth from North Africa to elevate their voices and contribute to the production of an outcome statement and recommendations feeding into the KDMECC-Africa discussions. Also, IOM Egypt promoted youth engagement in MECC-related action through supporting the Local Conference of Youth.

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