



## Key Messages to the 28th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties

Water point in temporary camp in  
Quelimane, Mozambique. © IOM 2015

### Advocacy messages calling to fill the climate finance gap to support developing countries in averting, minimizing and addressing displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change, disasters and environmental degradation

As highlighted by the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) [Synthesis Report \(AR6\)](#), climate and disaster risks are already contributing toward displacing people. Natural hazards continue to drive further internal disaster displacement, particularly in developing and least-developed countries, which recent high-impact flood, fire and drought events demonstrated. Globally, by the end of 2022, over 71 million people lived as internally displaced persons (IDPs) with more than [32 million](#) new internal disaster displacements recorded in the same year.

**In this context, climate change adaptation, efforts to reduce risk and build resilient, coping and adaptive capacities remain crucial to reduce the overall impacts – including displacement – of disasters, climate change and other drivers of displacement, including conflict and violence, while contributing to preventing extreme weather events and other interconnected risks from becoming large-scale disasters. Action and support towards addressing loss and damage (L&D) resulting from climate and disaster risk are part of these efforts and shall contribute to filling the climate finance gap.**

At the 2023 Bonn Climate Change Conference (SB58), developed countries reiterated their commitment to contribute \$100 billion per year by 2025 in climate finance to support developing countries – a pledge made initially at COP15 in Copenhagen in 2009. To date, the goal has still not been reached despite the \$80 billion provided and mobilized each year in 2018, 2019 and 2020. As high-emitting countries with structurally better adaptive capacities, developed countries have an obligation to live up to this pledge. This includes ensuring that sufficient state-to-state obligatory financing is dedicated to adaptation, upholding the spirit of differentiated responsibilities and being in line with Article 7 of the Paris Agreement.

These efforts have also been stressed in the Political declaration of the high-level meeting on the midterm review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, in which Member States recognize the need for the global community, including international financial institutions, development banks and the private sector, to enhance efforts to scale up financing instruments to meet the scale of financing needed by developing countries to prevent and reduce risks and build resilience against current and future shocks and hazards.

According to [OECD](#), since 2016, the biggest proportion of climate financing has been provided to mitigation finance (67%) focusing on energy and transport activities, while adaptation and resilience finance accounted for less than one-third of the total (24%), targeting water supply and sanitation, agriculture, forestry and fishing. In 2020 alone, mitigation finance represented the majority (58%), while adaptation finance grew in both absolute (\$8.3 billion increase compared to 2019) and relative terms (34% in 2020 compared to 25% in 2019). Other estimates from [civil society organizations](#) are more conservative, indicating that 2020 allocations from developed countries to support climate action in low- and middle-income countries were between \$21 billion and \$24.5 billion, of which only \$9.5 billion to \$11.5 billion was explicitly directed for climate adaptation.

With a current adaptation finance gap estimated to be \$194-366 billion per year, robust financial resources and mechanisms for accelerated action on adaptation and risk reduction are urgently required to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse effects of climate change, disaster and environmental degradation. However, until now, financial support for internal displacement in this context has mainly been provided by migration and humanitarian assistance sources – discretionary funding to UN agencies as opposed to obligatory non-concessionary finance to state parties – with limited contributions from climate and development sources. A fact that has continued to contribute to the escalation and recurrence of unsafe mobility options of which internal displacement is a poignant example.

New approaches and financial commitments must be made beyond the present sources of climate and development finance, including mechanisms to expand climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction and resilience-building actions toward better prevention and management of the risk of displacement. In that vein, seeking to achieve “zero displacement” must be a critical prerogative of climate adaptation.

**Ahead of COP28, the Secretary General’s Action Agenda on Internal Displacement calls on the UNFCCC Parties to consider the importance of strengthening displacement prevention and management by:**

- 1. Scaling up climate finance to fulfill the annual \$100 billion pledge, with at least half the funds dedicated to adaptation, disaster risk reduction and resilience building.** We must collectively work to improve prevention, preparedness, early action and early warning for disasters and climate-related crises, including by building on existing and fostering new partnerships. Combined with investing in sustainable, risk-informed and equitable social and economic development practices, these combined efforts can reduce displacement significantly, particularly among the most vulnerable.
- 2. Enabling countries, communities and local actors to scale up adaptation by accessing financial resources for prevention, preparedness and risk reduction governance.** Efforts should focus on ensuring that climate finance reaches the most vulnerable, namely those in the most climate-vulnerable states, including fragile or conflict-affected and that it doesn’t increase national debt. The capacities of climate-vulnerable states are often overstretched because they are already grappling with disaster displacement and other forms of loss and damage related to the adverse effects of climate change. Resources should be channeled to a diverse range of actors, including local and community-based organizations with access to information and public participation, to facilitate locally-led adaptation finance and target the most vulnerable communities.
- 3. Improving the adaptive capacity of people and communities in situations of vulnerability to offer people the choice to stay in dignity and safety in their areas of origin.** This includes prevention, risk reduction measures, climate-resilient development and active peacebuilding, and ensuring links with social protection mechanisms. Risk understanding, monitoring and data management, forecast-based financing, minimum preparedness plans, early warnings and contingency planning should be facilitated to predict, avert and minimize potential crises that could lead to displacement earlier and more reliably. People on the frontlines of the climate crisis must be supported to engage directly in each of these processes. These efforts should be financed and implemented by a diverse range of actors, including the private sector, considering a whole-of-society approach.

#### **About the United Nations Secretary-General’s Action Agenda on Internal Displacement**

The UN SG’s Action Agenda on Internal Displacement was launched in June 2022 in follow-up to the [High-Level Panel’s report on internal displacement](#). It lays out the SG’s vision to step up the approach to prevention, response and solutions, including 31 UN commitments. 22 UN agencies/entities, ie. DCO, DPO, DPPA, FAO, ILO, IOM, OCHA, OHCHR, UNDP, UN-Habitat, UN Women, UNCDF, UNFPA, UNOPS, UNICEF, Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, UNEP, UNDRR, UNFCCC, UNMAS, UNHCR and WFP. The present document is a deliverable of Group 8, convened by IOM and composed of DPO, DPPA, IOM, OCHA, UNDP, UNOPS, UNICEF, UNEP, UNDRR, UNFCCC, UNHCR, WFP and the Office of the Special Advisor (OSA), with the participation of representatives from the IASC Climate Sub-Group and CSO Advisory Group on Climate Change and Human Mobility. As per the UN commitments, Group 8 aims to identify priorities, key initiatives and deliverables to prevent displacement crises in the context of climate change and disasters (Commitments #18 and #19).

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