



■ IOM Presence ■ MECC-DRR Programming

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**2.6M**

NEW DISASTER DISPLACEMENTS IN 2021  
\*IDMC



**86M**

POTENTIAL NUMBER OF INTERNAL CLIMATE MIGRANTS TO 2050 IN WORST CASE SCENARIO  
\* WORLD BANK/GROUNDSWELL



**20**

IOM ACTIVE PROJECTS WITH A TOTAL VALUE OF USD 127M



**5,023**

TOTAL NUMBER OF IOM STAFF IN THE REGION

### 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

- » 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 Sub-Saharan Africa

The IPCC 6th Assessment Report indicates that climate change is projected to increase migration, especially internal and rural to urban migration. Should temperatures rise by 1.7°C by 2050, between 17 and 40 million people could migrate internally across Africa. This figure could reach 56 to 86 million if the increase rises to 2.5°C, because of water stress and associated conflicts, reduced crop productivity and sea level rise. These numbers could be even higher if we include rapid-onset hazards such as floods and tropical cyclones.

The East and Horn of Africa is one of the most vulnerable regions to climate variability and climate change. The region regularly faces a wide range of natural hazards and slow-onset events and processes leading to different forms of human mobility (displacement, migration, returns and planned relocation). Disasters linked to natural hazards, environmental degradation, and the adverse effects of climate change are amongst the leading and overlapping drivers of human mobility. The region is most often affected by floods, landslides, and tropical cyclones, as well as slow-onset events and processes, such as severe droughts,

water level rise, environmental degradation, and changing rainfall variability. Individual migration decisions are often based on a combination of these environmental and other economic, political, social, and demographic drivers.

Similarly, besides being a region particularly vulnerable to sudden onset events such as floods, West and Central Africa is also exposed to land degradation, water scarcity and coastal erosion.

According to IDMC, disasters have led to the displacement of 2.6 million people in 2021 in the region, a lower number compared to the previous year. Although the intensity and frequency of floods was lower, they accounted for about 60 per cent of the total of displaced persons. Displacement sites located far from markets and become trapped in repetitive displacement.



Somalia. © 2022/Claudia ROSEL

Moreover, in certain contexts, climate shocks overlap with existing humanitarian crises, including violent conflict. In these cases, countries that experience a combination of disaster and conflict displacement crises tend to have the worst levels of food insecurity, as those forced to move must abandon their fields and livestock, seek shelter at displacement sites located far from markets and become trapped in repetitive displacement. Therefore, food security and livelihoods are key factors to address in bringing displacement to a sustainable end.

## CASE STUDY

### Establishing baseline data on the nexus Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC) in Niger

Migration has been at the center of household and community adaptation strategies in Niger in the face of environmental shocks such as droughts, land degradation, floods, locust invasions and desertification. It has also been adopted to mitigate the disastrous effects of socio-economic and security pressure.

In the context of climate change and increasing climate risks, the main objectives of the project implemented by IOM in Niger is to contribute to the development of public policies that address the issues related to migration, environment and climate change in the country. For this purpose, the study conducted by IOM and its partners identified actions that could serve as repositories for future interventions to support the resilience dynamics of Niger's populations. These include developing rural localities, encouraging the emergence of sustainable empowerment dynamics among women and young people, promoting income-generating activities with a focus on preserving natural resources, supporting women in viable and ecologically sustainable economic projects. These projects, in turn, will improve the resilience of rural households to climate change and environmental degradation.

## WAY FORWARD

IOM promotes inclusive and sustainable migration management to mitigate the environmental drivers of across Sub-Saharan Africa. IOM's holistic approach, inclusive of policy dialogue, knowledge production, data collection and concrete action with migrants at sub-regional, national and local levels supports the identification of solutions to environmental migration and disaster displacement.

IOM is supporting regional and continental integration agendas of the African Union and Regional Economic Communities through free movement that allows for cross border mobility in the context of climate change and disasters. It also supports Member States in the region to articulate Migration, Environment, Climate Change and Risk Reduction (MECR) priorities and develop joint approaches. Additionally, IOM supports advocacy efforts to raise the topic of human mobility in global forums and negotiations.

IOM's portfolio of projects in the region combines evidence-based policy projects with livelihood community-based activities on topics such as diaspora engagement, pastoralism, gender and natural resources, green jobs, waste management, agroecology, agroforestry and coastal resilience, labor migration, or water and migration.

## CASE STUDY

### Kampala Ministerial Declaration on Migration, Environment and Climate Change

The Government of the Republic of Uganda, supported by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), organized a High-level, Regional, Inter-Ministerial Conference on "Migration, Environment and Climate Change in the East and Horn of Africa".

The Conference was geared towards developing an integrated approach to climate-induced mobility across the region to raise the urgency of addressing the impacts of climate change on human mobility in Africa and highlight both positive and adverse implications on the future of African development. 15 African Member States signed the 'Kampala Ministerial Declaration on Migration, Environment

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