



PEACE, PROSPERITY AND
REGIONAL INTEGRATION

REGIONAL POLICIES ON HUMAN MOBILITY IN THE CONTEXT OF DISASTERS AND CLIMATE CHANGE IGAD REGION

**CONSULTATIVE FORUMS - SESSION II – Regular migration
pathways – human mobility, green economy, protection in
the IGAD region, 22 Feb 2022, Lena Brenn**

CONTEXT

- Two thirds of the region are arid or semi-arid
- Vulnerable to natural hazards such as droughts and floods, which are compounded by the impacts of conflict in the region
- **Drought** as leading cause of disaster displacement in the Horn of Africa
- **Seasonal flooding** often interrelated with drought
- Natural hazards have intensified and are more frequent
- Almost 3 mio people newly displaced by disasters and climate change in 2020

RELEVANT REGIONAL POLICIES TO FACILITATE PATHWAYS FOR REGULAR MIGRATION, AND MINIMIZING DISPLACEMENT RISK

- Migration and displacement policies in the IGAD region: aligned to global and continental instruments such as the GCM, GCR, AU-Migration Policy Framework for Africa (MPFA), Agenda 2036 etc., and customized to regional realities:
 - Regional Migration Policy Framework (RMPF), Regional Migration Action Plan 2015-2020 (MAP) with a strategic priority related to climate change and disaster displacement (prevention, mitigation and adaptation)
 - Free Movement of Persons Protocol

IGAD FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS PROTOCOL

- **Preamble:** Recognizing the positive contribution that free movement of persons can have in mitigating the impact of conflict, poverty, unemployment and underemployment, drought and disasters, as well as the adverse effects of climate change and environmental degradation as important drivers of displacement and migration in the IGAD region
- **Art. 16 Movement of Persons Affected by Disasters**

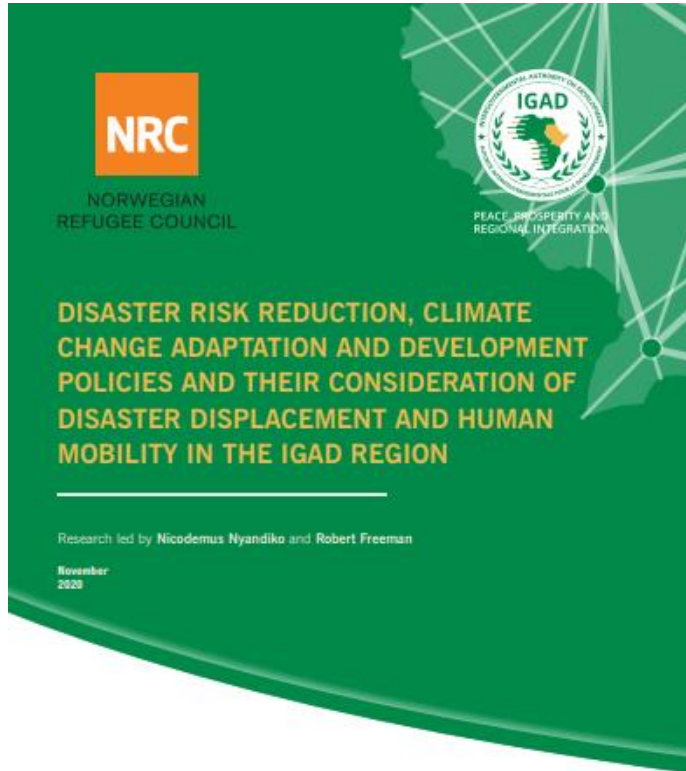
ART. 16 MOVEMENT OF PERSONS AFFECTED BY DISASTERS

1. Member States shall allow citizens of another Member State who are **moving in anticipation of, during or in the aftermath of disaster** to enter into their territory provided that upon arrival they shall be registered in accordance with national law
2. Member States shall take measures to **facilitate the extension of stay** or the exercise of other rights by citizens of other Member States who are affected by disaster in accordance with the provisions of this Protocol **when return to their state of origin is not possible or reasonable**

FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS PROTOCOL

- Great potential:
 - Access to territory, even before a disaster strikes
 - Protection against forced return to countries where they may continue to be at risk from a disaster
- Adopted in June 2021 by IGAD Council of Ministers, next step signature and ratification
- Implementation: one component is the development of Standard Operational Procedures on cross-border disaster displacement incl. simulation exercises

POLICY COHERENCE



- <https://disasterdisplacement.org/portfolio-item/drr-cca-development-policies-and-disaster-displacement-human-mobility-in-igad>
- Integration of human mobility in the context of disasters and climate change across relevant policies
- One key area of the Joint Programme on 'Addressing Drivers and Facilitating Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in the Contexts of Disasters and Climate Change in the IGAD Region' funded by the Migration Multi Partner Trust Fund

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THANK YOU