

What Individuals Can Do:

- ◆ **Urge national government** to take the actions listed on the reverse side of this page
- ◆ **Urge local governments** to improve waste management to include collection of non-meat food scraps for composting *and* of all paper, plastics, glass, and metals for recycling
- ◆ **Educate** yourselves and their families, friends, and communities (especially young people) about climate-induced displacement
- ◆ **Join a local group** of activists or natural resource defenders that resists environmentally harmful policies
- ◆ **Divest** from fossil fuel companies
- ◆ **Eat locally-sourced** foods and reduce meat and cheese consumption
- ◆ **Walk, bike, or take public transportation** instead of driving
- ◆ Whenever possible, **drink tap water** from a reusable, non-plastic container
- ◆ **Shop with reusable**, not plastic, bags
- ◆ **Avoid buying** items that come in excessive packaging material
- ◆ **Refuse plastic** drinking straws at restaurants
- ◆ **Shorten** their shower time
- ◆ **Turn off** all lights or electronics when not in use
- ◆ **Avoid buying** new electronics, clothing, and other goods until those they own are unusable
- ◆ **Buy goods secondhand** whenever you must make a purchase
- ◆ **Cold wash and hang dry** clothing

Where To Learn More:

- ◆ **IOM-Migration, Environment, and Climate Change:** <https://www.iom.int/migration-and-climate-change>
- ◆ **UNHCR-Climate Change and Disasters:** <http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/climate-change-and-disasters.html>
- ◆ **Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda:** <http://bit.ly/2n8JoXP>
- ◆ **Platform on Disaster Displacement:** <http://disasterdisplacement.org/>
- ◆ **Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (IDMC):** <http://www.internal-displacement.org/>
- ◆ **Mary Robinson Foundation-Climate Justice:** <http://www.mrfcj.org/>
- ◆ **Paris Climate Agreement NDCs:** <http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/indc>
- ◆ **Center for Migration Studies-Climate-Induced Migration:** <https://cmsny.org/cms-initiatives/climate-induced-migration/>
- ◆ **Care International on gendered impacts of climate-induced displacement:** <https://bit.ly/2PaPJoe>

NGO Committee on Migration

Web: www.ngo-migration.org

Facebook: Committee on Migration

E-mail: ngomigrationcommittee@gmail.com



Sources:

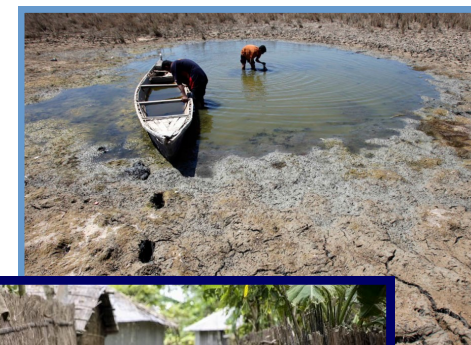
1. IDMC Global Estimates 2020
2. IDMC Global Estimates 2015
3. IDMC Global Estimates 2016
4. UNDP & GGCA, 2016: <https://bit.ly/3n8ezBS>
5. IPCC: <https://bit.ly/2MVuVA5>
6. *Scientific Reports* 6, Article number: 20281 (2016): <http://go.nature.com/2mpa5cp>

Cover photos: UNICEF/Akash (left); AP/Hadi Mizban (right)



NGO Committee on Migration

Climate-Induced Displacement



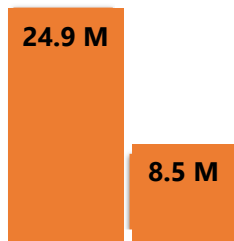
How our changing climate is forcibly displacing millions from their homes *and* what we can do about it

Climate change and forced displacement in our world today:

Climate displacement is already a problem

From 2008-2019, rapid-onset natural disasters such as typhoons and earthquakes internally displaced 288.5 million people from their homes. If this population were a nation, it would be the 4th most populous in the world.

In 2019, the number of people internally displaced by sudden natural disasters was three times the number displaced by violence and conflict.¹



Slow-onset disasters, such as drought and sea level rise also threaten communities around the world. Is-

lands from the South Pacific Ocean to the coasts of the United States have already begun responding to the threat of submersion by making plans for mass relocation of their residents. Studies predict 72-187 million people will be displaced by sea level rise by 2100.²



The trend of displacement due to climate change and disaster is accelerating. Historical models suggest that a person has a 60% greater chance of being displaced by a disaster today than that person did 40 years ago.³

Women and those living in poverty are the most affected

The phenomenon of environmental displacement does not impact all people equally. Of the roughly 24 million persons whose displacement due to climate change or environmental disaster is recorded each year, UNDP and the Global Gender and Climate Alliance find that 80% are women and girls. This disproportionate burden of displacement placed on women and girls exacerbates the higher barriers they already face to accessing basic services, justice systems, representation in decision-making bodies, financial independence, and enjoyment of rights.⁴

Lower income nations and individuals continue to be the most vulnerable to displacement by climate disaster due to a number of factors. These include lack of financial resources for adaptation and mitigation of climate change impact and more direct dependence on ecosystem stability for food, water, shelter, and fuel.⁵

One of the greatest injustices of climate change is that 20 of the 36 countries who contribute to it the most through high rates of carbon emissions are also among the least vulnerable to its negative impacts.⁶

When people are forcibly displaced, they are stripped of their human rights to food, safe drinking water, sanitation, and shelter. Their vulnerability to violence increases, and their access to education, healthcare, and personal freedoms is obstructed. These injustices are particularly difficult to overcome for those who do not have significant savings or access to credit in a powerful currency.

How governments can help

- ◆ Fulfill commitments made in the Paris Climate Agreement and Global Compact for Migration (GCM) as quickly as possible and collaborate with other governments to support them in doing the same
- ◆ Converse with leaders and citizens of Small Island States and coastal regions to better understand implications of sea level rise for human rights, culture, and identity
- ◆ Promote discussions at the national and international levels regarding the possibility of a protected status and aid systems for persons being displaced by climate change and disaster (GCM objective #5)
- ◆ Implement an urgent transition from fossil fuel dependence to sustainable energy subsistence (GCM objective #2)
- ◆ Undertake national education campaigns to promote awareness of the causes and effects of climate change
- ◆ Champion use of Human Development Index & GINI coefficient, not GDP, as measures of development
- ◆ Implement national data collection examining relationship between environmental degradation, displacement, and loss of access to human rights (GCM objective #1)
- ◆ Include climate displacement updates in national reports to the International Migration Review