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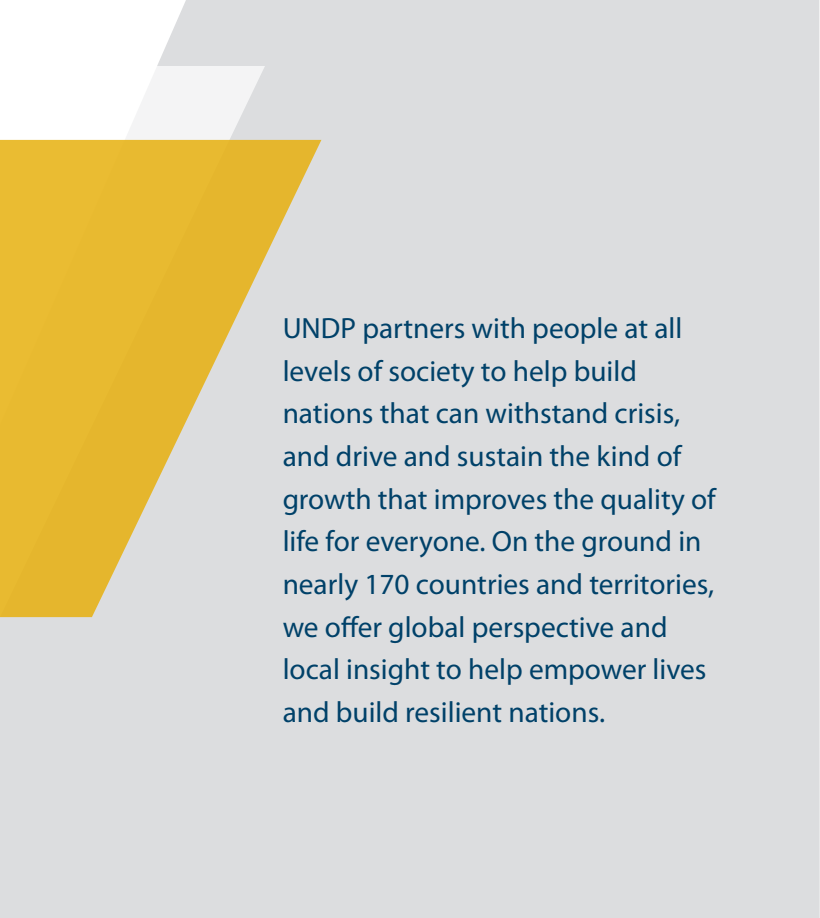**GLOBAL REPORT**
2016-2018

DEVELOPMENT APPROACHES TO MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT

Key Achievements, Experiences and Lessons Learned 2016-2018

UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in nearly 170 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

Cover photo: Sudan Women attend English classes at IDP camp © 2014 UN Photo Albert González Farran

Chapter opener photos: © UNDP

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1 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

There are currently more than 258 million international migrants globally. Female migrants constitute about 48 percent of this number, although women are the majority of international migrants in Europe (52.4 percent) and North America (51.2 percent). According to UNDESA (2017), between 2000 and 2015, migration contributed 42 percent of the population growth in North America and 31 percent in Oceania. During the same period in Europe, the size of the population would have declined had it not been for migration.

Despite this, more than a third of all international migrants have moved from one developing country to another. In 2017, Asia hosted the largest number of international migrants (80 million). More international migrants from the South reside in the South than in the North.

In addition to this, today more than 70 million people are forcibly displaced. Amongst these displaced people are about 41 million internally displaced people, and more than 25 million refugees who have been forced to move. While the sheer numbers have grown, so too has the average duration of displacement, which is now 17 years. Displacement is also a phenomenon overwhelmingly affecting developing countries, with 10 countries hosting the most refugees globally.

Between 2008 and 2014 a yearly average of 22.5 million people were displaced by weather- and climate-related natural hazards, both within and across national borders. Risks from climate change, environmental degradation and disasters are emerging as among the top drivers of displacement in the world today with 203.4 million people displaced by disasters in the past eight years alone. The upward trend shows no sign of abating as projections dictate that climate change alone could uproot over 143 million people by 2050.[1] This may accelerate global urbanization even further as the displaced flee within, to and between cities, increasing the need to respond in urban settings.

HIGHLIGHTS OF DISPLACEMENT ISSUE

More than **5.6 million** registered Syrian refugees reside in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt.

Another **6.1 million** people are displaced within Syria.

In Nigeria, Niger, Chad and Cameroon, Boko Haram has caused the displacement of more than **2.5 million** people in the region, of whom **1.7 million** are internally displaced in Nigeria.

More than **650,000** Rohingya have left Myanmar for Bangladesh.

[1] World Bank, Groundswell: Preparing for Internal Climate Migration, March 2018, available at:
https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/29461/WBG_ClimateChange_Final.pdf

According to the ODI-UNDP Report (2017),[2] internal displacement associated with sudden-onset climate hazards is more common where vulnerability is high and capacity to cope in-situ is difficult (See Table 1). There are exceptions, though, such as China and the United States, where climate-related hazards can lead to large displacements – in part because of early warning and evacuation mechanisms.

In light of the above, migration and displacement have become important topics of our time. While displacement can be prevented, migration is a normal phenomenon since time immemorial. We need to ensure that people move not out of necessity but choice, and enable safe, regularl and orderly migration. UNDP provides support in response to increasing requests from countries across all regions to develop tailored programmatic responses on migration and displacement. This means programming to address the distinct human development needs of migrants, internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees and their host communities.

Table 1 | Countries with high internal sudden-onset disaster displacement numbers for 2016 and their climate change vulnerability and readiness scores[3]

Country	Region	Vulnerability to climate change[4]	2016 climate-related displacement
Philippines	South East Asia	50.8	5,930,000
India	South Asia	46.4	2,400,000
Indonesia	South Asia	50.9	1,246,000
Myanmar	South East Asia	37.6	509,000
Ethiopia	East Africa	40	347,000
Democratic Republic of Congo	Central Africa	32.5	130,000
Nigeria	West Africa	40.1	78,000
Yemen	Middle East	32.2	45,000
Colombia	South America	56.2	31,000
Afghanistan	Central Asia	32.4	7,400

[2] http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/climate-and-disaster-resilience-/migration-report.html

[3] Source: Data from IDMC Database, 2017; ND-GAIN, 2017; Chen et al., 2015

[4] The ND-GAIN Index, which ranges from 0 to 100, measures a country's vulnerability to climate change in combination with its readiness to improve resilience. The lower the number, the more vulnerable the country. Source: Data from IDMC Database, 2017; ND-GAIN, 2017; Chen et al., 2015

International Migrants

Although there is currently no universally agreed definition for who constitutes an international migrant, statistical definitions include all persons who reside outside their country of birth, irrespective of the motivation to move. Several countries collect information on foreign citizens only, regardless of their country of birth. Often the term migrants is used to refer to voluntary migrants, who choose to move across international borders, as opposed to forced migrants, who are compelled to leave their communities of origin.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Displacement is a forced removal of persons from their home or country, often due to armed conflict or natural disasters.

An internally displaced person, or IDP, is someone who is forced to flee his or her home, but who remains within his or her country's borders. So unlike refugees, an IDP has remained inside their home country.

The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement outline the rights of IDPs and the responsibilities of national governments to protect and assist them[5]

Refugees

According to the 1951 UN Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol, refugees are persons who have fled their country because of a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinions. Regional refugee conventions namely the 1969 Organisation of African Unity Convention and the 1984 Cartagena Declaration also regard refugees as people who flee because of external aggression, occupation, foreign domination or events seriously disturbing public order.

Returnees and host community members participate in skills training together
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[5] (https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/GPEnglish.pdf).

2 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT ON MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT

This report gives the highlights of UNDP's key achievements, lessons learned and experiences on migration and displacement policy and programming, which form an intrinsic part of the overall implementation of these initiatives at the global, regional and country levels. They provide programme and policy implementers and other stakeholders with an opportunity to take stock of UNDP's key achievements, experiences and lessons learned in 2016/2017.

This may then result in UNDP and/or its partners replicating lessons in new policy and programming initiatives, making adjustments to the design, management or implementation of similar policy and programmes on migration and displacement. It is expected that the experiences and lessons learned will, therefore, feed into the design and implementation of future policy and programme initiatives on migration and displacement in line with UNDP Strategic Plan (2018-21) and the 2030 Agenda.

The compilation of these experiences and lessons learned will be an ongoing exercise with periodic updates as policy and programmes on migration and displacement are implemented and new lessons are learned by UNDP at global, regional and country levels. This strengthens UNDP as a global knowledge platform.

UNDP will use different knowledge platforms, migration and displacement websites, meetings, conferences, workshops and the UNDP Technical Working Group on Migration and Displacement as platforms to share key achievements, lessons and experiences on policy and programme implementation in various countries. Such an exercise will enrich UNDP's overall work on migration and displacement by cross-fertilizing lessons and experiences from across regions: Africa, Arab States, Latin America, Europe and CIS and Asia and the Pacific.

Lessons and experiences on migration and displacement from the global level will inform what happens at the country level. In turn, experiences and lessons from country level policy and programme implementation will feed into the global migration and displacement interventions, and shape their scope and content.

In many countries, migration and displacement have become a crisis mainly because national and local governments lack the capacities to address the situation early on; they have no means at policy and institutional levels to better equip themselves to provide humanitarian and development support to migrants, refugees, IDPs and/or host communities; they lack resources, coordination and integrated approaches that address the full spectrum of the needs of the affected groups of migrants, refugees, IDPs and host communities. In some cases, there is lack of commitment to address the situation affectively. Where response is undertaken, it is through a silo approach and not necessarily through a holistic government/society approach.

In light of all this, in 2016 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, making bold commitments to save lives, protect rights and share responsibility on a global scale. Members committed to ensure safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration; and, for refugees, (i) ease pressures on host countries; (ii) enhance refugee self-reliance; (iii) expand access to third country solutions; and (iv) support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.

UNDP made its own commitments in support of Member States. UNDP's commitments focus on addressing drivers of migration and root causes of displacement, mainstreaming migration and displacement into development policies and plans, including during localization of SDGs; advocating, with partners, for the four main shifts needed[6] to facilitate the necessary inter-agency coordination to transcend the humanitarian-development-peace divide in addressing protracted displacement and migration; and supporting affected countries, migrants, displaced people and host communities to cope, recover and protect development gains.

At the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016, UN agencies, Member States and governments reiterated their commitments to leave no one behind in addressing forced displacement by i) Implementing a new approach to addressing displacement; ii) Supporting durable solutions for refugees and IDPs and reducing internal displacement by half by 2030; iii) Providing host countries and communities with increased financial and political support; iv) Sharing responsibility for refugees and v) Strengthening the protection of refugees and IDPs. In addition, key UN agencies and governments agreed to reduce and resolve internal displacement through prevention, protection and solutions for IDPs as part of a Plan of Action for the 20th Anniversary of the Guiding Principles for Internally Displaced People