



## SUMMARY REPORT

# Consultation on climate change and migration

28 September 2021, 15:00-17:00 GVA  
Zoom online platform

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## OVERVIEW

The Consultation was attended by 140 participants representing civil society organizations and stakeholders, including academia, migrant and diaspora organizations, local authorities and communities, parliamentarians, trade unions and the private sector, faith-based organizations and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, as well as members of the UN Network on Migration.

This summary (i) outlines updates on the workstream's workplan and specific activities presented by the co-leads of the Thematic Priority 4 on climate change and migration, (ii) delineates key recommendations shared by stakeholders in response to the guiding questions<sup>1</sup> sent ahead of the consultation and, it (iii) highlights proposals for the next steps and way forward.

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## WORKSTREAM WORKPLAN

The co-leads of the Thematic Priority 4 presented the workstream's workplan (available [online](#)) and its specific activities organized around three pillars:

- **Pillar 1:** Assess existing knowledge, lessons and practices that can foster synergies across UN work on migration in the context of disasters, climate change and environmental degradation;
- **Pillar 2:** Expand spaces for dialogue, exchange, capacity building, and collaboration on practices and knowledge with States, stakeholders and other state-led initiatives;

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<sup>1</sup> Below are the guiding questions shared with participants ahead of the meeting:

- Considering the upcoming COP 26 negotiations, what are the key messages you would recommend Parties take into account in their discussions relating to migration in the context of disasters, climate change and environmental degradation?
- Looking ahead to the IMRF and the Global Stocktake of the Paris Agreement, both taking place in 2022, how can the climate and migration nexus best be reflected in those upcoming high-level discussions?
- The second Secretary-General report on the implementation of the GCM will be released in February 2022. What specific recommendations beyond those reflected in the GCM do you expect the report to address to States and the UN system on climate and migration?

• **Pillar 3:** Develop joint advocacy and messaging on migration in the context of disasters, climate change and environmental degradation to help advance the implementation of GCM Objectives 2, 5 and 7, and the recommendations of the UNFCCC TFD, building on the Network's existing work.

## MESSAGES AND SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN AHEAD OF COP26: KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAKEHOLDERS

- The workstream recently developed a list of key messages (available [here](#)) to share with Parties in the upcoming COP 26 negotiations.
- This consultation was an opportunity for the workstream's co-leads to discuss with civil society organizations and stakeholders on the future and ongoing priorities of Thematic Priority 4 and on the key messages they recommend the Network to focus on ahead of the COP26. Based on the inputs received during this consultation and provided by the Executive Committee, the Network will draft a public statement and launch a social media campaign.
- Participants emphasized the need to meaningfully engage a broad range of stakeholders and civil society organizations, to provide relevant platforms as well as proper translation (in other languages than English, French and Spanish) in order to ensure that the voice of the most affected by climate change is included in the conversations. They also expressed the wish to receive information regularly on this thematic priority, as well as to participate in further exchanges facilitated by the Network with stakeholders within the workstream.
- Stakeholders called upon governments to develop safe migration pathways and ensure that human mobility is integrated into climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction (DRR) plans. They stressed the importance of building upon existing instruments such as the Nansen Initiative's Protection Agenda.
- Stakeholders underscored the significant role that migrant workers and their communities can play in driving climate change solutions and on the need to ensure that climate change adaptation planning and practices are developed in the long-term, and that migrants can access to decent work and exercise their rights under international labor law.
- Participants underlined the need to call on governments to enhance their ambition on adaptation and to redouble efforts on financial support to develop and implement national adaptation plans.
- Stakeholders also stressed the importance for governments to include the inextricable link between health, migration and, climate change in the services provided to migrants. They emphasized that further search on the nexus migration-health-climate change should be conducted.
- Stakeholders urged governments to be bold, to adopt adaptation and resilience strategies and develop new instruments to protect people displaced by climate-change related disasters, in particular those from Small Island Developing States, those most at risk. They also reiterated that more data and research on the climate change and migration nexus and on the implications for impacted communities are needed, as well as capacity-building trainings so that the affected populations can be empowered, have a seat at the table and participate in the negotiations.

- Participants also raised the issue of complementarity, coherence and interaction between the thematic priorities of the UN Network on Migration [workplan](#), especially with the workstreams looking at the anti-discrimination dimensions, both from the lens of anti-racism and gender.
- COP26 is a milestone and an important event to build momentum and ensure that the climate discourse fully embraces the migration dimension and vice-versa.
- The Network will seek to keep an ongoing dialogue and to build a continuum of actions beyond COP26, the IMRF and the UNFCCC Global Stocktake.

## NEXT STEPS

- A new **discussion space** has been created on the [Migration Network Hub](#) to ensure meaningful and lasting interactions between stakeholders and Network members on migration in the context of disasters, climate change and environmental degradation. This is a space where stakeholders can share key messages, recommendations and questions in the run-up to COP 26.
  - 1) You can register by clicking [here](#);
  - 2) Then access the discussion space [here](#) and click on “Consultation – 28 September”. You can provide inputs by “replying” to the three guiding questions.This space will be open until [Wednesday, 20 October](#).
- The co-leads of the Thematic Priority 4 will contact representatives of entities and organizations who expressed the wish to contribute to specific areas of this workstream during the consultation. You can **express interest, share comments and inputs** by sending an email to [unmignet@iom.int](mailto:unmignet@iom.int).
- The UN Network on Migration will hold a **Dialogue Series** in the lead-up to the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF). One of these dialogues will focus on climate change and migration and will take place in March 2022 (date to be confirmed). The Network will update the [calendar of events](#) with further details soon.