



Regional insights: Exploring Effective Practices on Addressing Human Mobility in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change

GCM Talk – Arab Region

5 June 2024, 1 PM Cairo time

Online Meeting

Zoom link in English with required registration available [here](#), with interpretation available in Arabic and French



Organized by

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) on behalf of the UN Network on Migration workstream on Climate Change, the GCM and the Paris Agreement.

Background

In December 2018, United Nations Member States adopted the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), a non-binding international agreement calling for a common and comprehensive approach to international migration governance in line with obligations and principles established under international law. Under Objectives 2, 5, 21 and 23, the GCM outlines twelve commitments to address migration and human mobility in the context of disasters, climate change and environmental degradation.

To support and facilitate States' efforts to implement these commitments, the United Nations Network on Migration (Network) at the global level established the workstream on Climate Change, the GCM and the Paris Agreement, led by IOM, the International Labour Organization and UNFCCC and supported by: ACT Alliance, Alianza Americas, Caritas Internationalis, Church World Service, CMDP, FAO, IFAD, IFRC, ITUC, Norwegian Refugee Council, Ovivashi Karmi Unnayan Program, OHCHR, PacificWIN and Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations, Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD), PSI, Secours Catholique-Caritas France, Solidarity Center, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN MGCY, Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, Water Initiatives, WHO and the Women in Migration Network. As part of the work undertaken by the workstream, the Network launched the "[CLIMB Database: Human Mobility in the Context of Disasters, Climate Change and Environmental Degradation Database](#)" in October 2023.

This online database compiles over 1500 policy instruments, including 1348 national policy instruments in 172 countries and 230 bilateral and/or regional policy instruments, that contain provisions of relevance to human mobility in the context of disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation. As such, the database serves as a valuable resource for policymakers, researchers, practitioners, and other stakeholders working on this topic, both in the context of the GCM as well as other instruments including the Global Compact on Refugees, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Regional Context: Arab Region

On 3-4 July 2024, the GCM Regional Review for the Arab Region will take place in Cairo, Egypt, providing Member States and stakeholders an opportunity to assess their progress in implementing the objectives and guiding principles of the GCM. This GCM Talk aims to inform these regional reviews by providing an overview of policy development across the Arab region on addressing human mobility in the context of disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation.

The Arab region faces a variety of climate-related hazards, ranging from escalating temperatures to shifting rainfall patterns, as well as slow-onset hazards such as increasing sea levels and worsening water scarcity. These trends, intensified by climate change, have far-reaching impacts on the region's economies, communities' livelihoods, food and water security, and overall sustainable development. The interplay of demographic growth, urbanization, economic disparities and recessions, conflict, and

political instability compounds these challenges, driving increased population movements within the region.

Analyses drawn from the CLIMB Database have highlighted that, despite recent progress, many policies addressing these challenges are yet to be developed in the region, particularly in facilitating regular pathways to move people out of harm's way in disaster contexts. To inform the upcoming regional reviews, this GCM Talk will offer insight into existing legal and policy developments on these issues and highlight emerging practices and challenges.

Description of the Event

Drawing on the data collated in the CLIMB Database, the GCM Talk will provide an overview of policy development across the Arab region on addressing human mobility in the context of disasters, the adverse effects of climate change and environmental degradation. The discussions will highlight the ways in which Member States can use this data to identify and address policy gaps, and outline opportunities for Member State engagement to advance the implementation of relevant GCM commitments analysed under the CLIMB Database during the [GCM Regional Reviews for the Arab Region](#).

Objectives

The GCM Talks will aim to:

- Provide a regional overview of policy and legislative developments around governments' GCM commitments in the context of disasters, climate change, and environmental degradation, highlighting good practices;
- Promote increased knowledge and understanding on the availability of and ways to use the data contained in the CLIMB Database for Member States and other stakeholders;
- Encourage Member States and stakeholders to engage with, contribute to, and further strengthen the accuracy and comprehensiveness of the database; and
- Discuss GCM implementation ahead of the GCM regional reviews for the Arab region.

Guiding Questions

- How have recent policy and legal developments in the region addressed human mobility in the context of disasters, climate change, and environmental degradation?
- What good practices have emerged in implementing relevant GCM commitments in the Arab region? What are key challenges in implementing relevant GCM commitments?
- How can regional cooperation and collaboration be enhanced to better facilitate pathways for regular migration in the context of disasters, climate change and environmental degradation?
- How can the data and insights from the CLIMB Database be used effectively to inform future GCM implementation in the region? What could be concrete next steps?

Format

The GCM Talk will be held online for a duration of 90 minutes. After the event, a summary report will be published to inform and support Member States and stakeholders in their GCM implementation efforts. Interpretation will be available in Arabic, French and English.

Draft Agenda

GCM Talks in the Arab Region on Human Mobility in the Context of Disasters, Climate Change and Environmental Degradation	
Moderation: Senior Regional Migration, Environment, Climate Change and Risk Reduction Thematic Specialist, Ms. Masako Ueda (IOM)	
13:00-13:05 5 minutes	Welcome and Overview of Event Opening remarks: MENA IOM Regional Director, Mr. Othman Belbeisi
13:05-13:10 5 minutes	Introduction of the CLIMB Database Experts from PDD/IOM will briefly introduce the key features of the CLIMB Database, including the feedback mechanism. Short video about CLIMB. Speaker: PDD (Mr. Timo Schmidt)
13:10-13:15 5 minutes	Overview of Policy Development Experts will provide an overview of relevant policy development across the Arab region, highlighting trends and thematic priorities. Speaker: PDD (Timo Schmidt)
13:15-14:05 50 minutes	Panel: Effective Practices and Member State Engagement 3-5 selected Arab Member States will share effective practices in GCM implementation to address human mobility in the context of disasters, climate change and environmental degradation, as well as discuss their engagement with the CLIMB Database. Selected speakers: (TBC)
14:05-14:25 20 minutes	Interactive Discussion In an interactive discussion format, attendees will share feedback and comments on the policy development and good practices presented. The discussion will showcase concrete steps in which participants can engage, feed into, further refine and use the CLIMB Database.

14:25-14:30 5 minutes	Closing: The Way Forward The moderator will summarize the discussion and outline the next steps for Member States and stakeholders to engage with and contribute to the CLIMB Database. Speaker: UNFCCC, ILO and UNNM will further elaborate on the future engagement with CLIMB.
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