



## 20TH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP) UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC),

Lima Peru, 1-12 December 2014

IOM is working towards increased awareness, understanding and action on the linkages between human mobility and climate. The UNFCCC negotiations provide an essential framework to foster policy on human mobility and climate.

### **CLIMATE CHANGE IS A CAUSE OF HUMAN MOBILITY**

Environmental and climatic factors are both drivers and pull factors of migration, and are influenced by economic, social, political and demographic issues. All these different dimensions together define a community and an individual's resilience and vulnerability.

Mobility strategies of migrants are not inherently "positive" or "negative". Mobility can save lives, enhance resilience and reduce risk – and it can also make people vulnerable and expose them to new risks. Migration in the context of climate change gives a human face to the climate change debate. More emphasis needs to be placed on the migrants themselves, their families and their communities, on understanding their strategies, the challenges they face, and mobility options that are available to them.

### **HUMAN MOBILITY IS AN ADAPTATION STRATEGY TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

Individuals and communities use migration to adapt to changing environmental conditions. In some contexts, migration can constitute an important and positive adaptation strategy that can be supported by policy action. Human mobility matters should be factored into national adaptation plans and in adaptation strategies.

The contributions of migrants and diasporas through remittances, knowledge transfers and investment can serve adaptation

purposes. The role of migration as an adaptation strategy to climate change can be facilitated.

### **CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY SHOULD CONSIDER HUMAN MOBILITY**

The UNFCCC process should continue to include human mobility issues in the negotiations. Following major advances in Cancun in 2010 (*decision 1.CP/16 paragraph 14 (f)*) and in Doha in 2012 (*decision on loss and damage 3.CP/18 paragraph 7 (a) (vi)*), negotiations under the UNFCCC should continue to factor in and advance issues of human mobility in relation to climate change.

Policymakers need to be empowered at the national, local, or regional and international levels to be able to address the complex nexus of migration, environment and climate. Climate and migration require common policy responses.

### **IOM'S 3 BROAD OBJECTIVES**

IOM pursues three broad objectives in managing environmental migration, intervening at each stage of the migration cycle:

- To minimize forced and unmanaged migration as much as possible.
- Where forced migration does occur, to ensure assistance and protection for those affected and to seek durable solutions.
- To facilitate the role of migration as an adaptation strategy to climate change.

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## IOM'S ENGAGEMENT ON MIGRATION AND CLIMATE: 7AS

1. **Adaptation:** Giving prominence to the potential of migration as a positive adaptation strategy, taking into consideration disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, sustainable development and resilience implications.
2. **Abilities:** Calling attention to the capacities needed at the policy and community levels to respond to issues associated with human mobility in the context of climate change and environmental degradation.
3. **Alliances:** Encouraging partnerships and collaboration among all key stakeholder at international, regional, national and local levels, across policy areas and with governmental, non-governmental and private actors to ensure that a wide range of policy options is developed.
4. **Action:** Highlighting actions already being taken and existing good practices to encourage replication and development of new tailored solutions.
5. **Assessments:** Assessing and evaluating existing data for evidence-based and producing new evidence and research.
6. **Assets:** Accessing funds to develop activities on migration and adaptation and harnessing the potential of migration-related sources of financing, for example, remittances and diaspora investment.
7. **Advocacy:** Giving a voice to environmental migrants and adopting rights based approaches.