

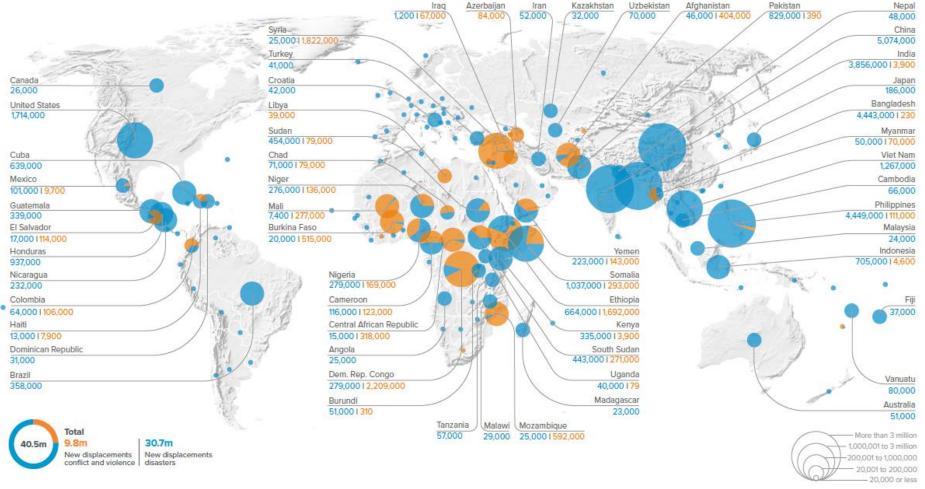
PASTORAL ORIENTATIONS ON CLIMATE DISPLACED PEOPLE

ENVIRONMENTAL MOBILITY AND SOLIDARITY

Alberto Ares Mateos, SJ

New displacements by conflict and disasters in 2020

















Europe and Central Asia 85,000 | 234,000

Key Messages

The number of people worldwide living in internal displacement has reached a record 55 million as of 31 December 2020. More than 85 per cent have fled conflict and violence. Around seven million have been uprooted by disasters but given the incomplete data this is likely to be a significant underestimate.

Weather-related events were responsible for 98 per cent of all disaster displacement recorded in 2020. Intense cyclones, monsoon rains and floods hit highly exposed and densely populated areas in South Asia and East Asia and the Pacific, including China, the Philippines and Bangladesh. The Atlantic hurricane season was the most active on record, and extended rainy seasons across the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa uprooted millions more.

Around 40.5 million new displacements were recorded in 2020, the highest figure in ten years. Disasters triggered over three times more displacements than conflict and violence. These figures were recorded despite the Covid-19 pandemic, when movement restrictions obstructed data collection and fear of infection discouraged people from seeking emergency shelter.

The convergence of conflict and disasters led to many people being displaced for a second or even third time, increasing and prolonging their vulnerability. Many of those who fled flooding in Yemen had already been uprooted at least once by conflict. Drought in Somalia drove people to flee from rural to urban areas where they are now at greater risk of eviction and attacks by armed groups.

Measures to curb the spread of Covid-19 significantly impeded humanitarian efforts globally. The pandemic also heightened internally displaced people's (IDPs) needs and vulnerabilities, while delaying the search for durable solutions.

The UN secretary general called for a global ceasefire to unite against the virus, but conflict continued unabated, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East and North Africa. Persistent conflict continued to force people to flee in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Syria and Afghanistan, while escalating violence and the expansion of extremist groups in Ethiopia, Mozambique and Burkina Faso fuelled some of the world's fastest growing displacement crises.

Internal displacement constitutes a significant economic burden for individuals, communities and economies. The global cost of one year of displacement was nearly \$20.5 billion in 2020, a figure that covers support for IDPs' housing, education, health and security needs, and accounts for their loss of income.

Persistent misconceptions surround disaster displacement, with serious implications for people, and floods hit policy and responses. They include that disasters are natural, when human factors have a major role in how they play out; that disaster displacement is short-term, when in reality season was in toften becomes protracted; that climate change will drive inly seasons mass migration across borders when actually much displacement is small-scale and localised; and that small events are of little concern, when in fact they undermine people's lives and threaten local development gains.

Prising temperatures are increasing the frequency and intensity of weather-related hazards, but climate change is not the only factor that drives displacement risk. A range of social and economic drivers must be addressed in the face of ever more powerful storms and devastating floods.

There have been significant advances in the development of national and regional policies on disaster displacement and climate-related migration, and global attention on the issue is growing. A number of countries now recognise the issue. Implementation, and assessing progress in doing so, are the next priorities.

11 When the impacts of climate change, slow-onset environmental change or unsustainable land use make an area uninhabitable, returning after a disaster is not an option. Two alternatives for those displaced are local integration or planned relocation. These solutions require strong local governance and decentralised interventions that include the perspectives of those at risk and support community-led livelihood initiatives.

12 There is an increasing need to connect humanitarian, peacebuilding and sustainable development efforts to prevent and respond to displacement in a changing climate. Disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation are key, but more flexible and predictable financing is required.

18 Filling the data gaps is essential if we are to understand how displacement impedes progress on the sustainable development agenda. To paint a clear picture, however, we cannot act at the global level alone. Disasters and climate impacts are essentially local phenomena, so local authorities and national governments have a key role to play.

The evening sky with volcanic lightning during the eruption of Taal Volcano, as seen from the nearby province of Quezon. © Getty Images/Mariano Sayno, January 2020.

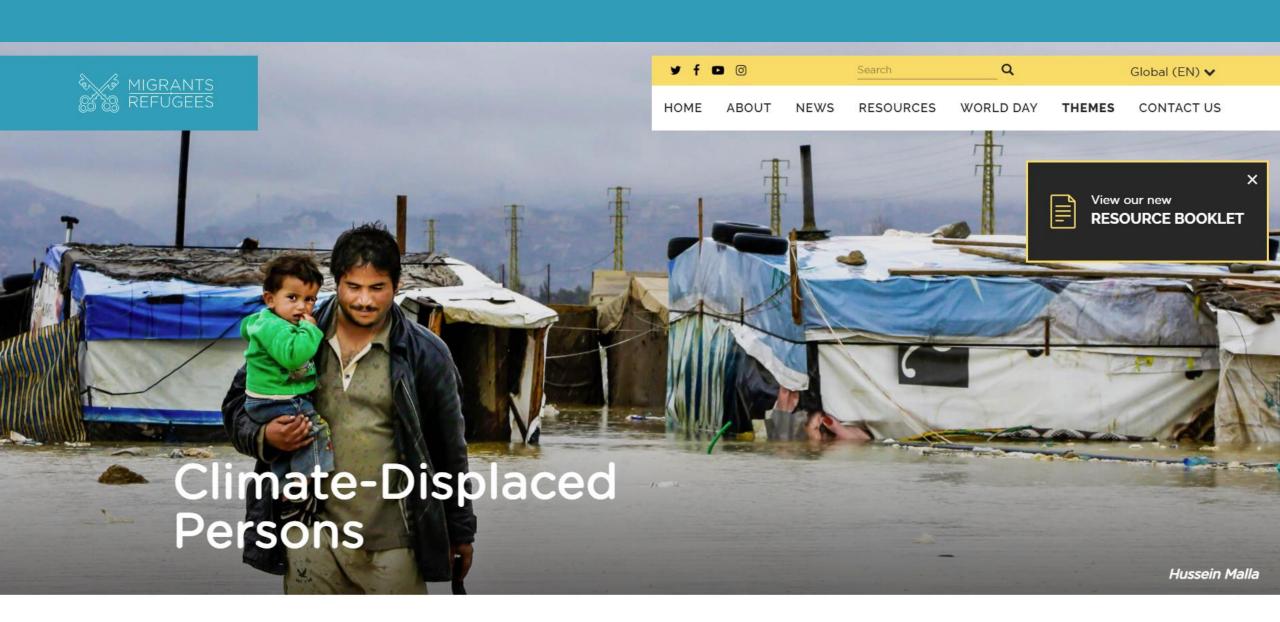




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GOOD PRACTICES ABOUT CLIMATE DISPLACEMENT

1. ACKNOWLEDGING THE CLIMATE CRISIS AND DISPLACEMENT NEXUS

→ Initiative: Campaign 61 "Quien más sufre el maltrato al planeta no eres tu"

Actors: Manos Unidas

Location: Spain - Europe

Further info: Manos Unidas - Campaign 61

Description: Manos Unidas promotes support for an informed ecological culture with education about the consequences of climate crises and the importance of taking care of our common home. This non-profit



organization supports migrants who have been forced to move for environmental reasons and aims to ensure their right to a dignified life. The 2020 campaign worked to provide access to electricity in order to improve living conditions, to strengthen local capacity for community coexistence, and to improve habitat in integral fashion. Resettlement of communities that are victims of pollution is a focus, as is comprehensive emergency aid for the victims of climate catastrophes in impoverished countries.

2. PROMOTING AWARENESS AND OUTREACH

→ Initiative: Smart Skills Curriculum

Actors: Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Location: South Africa - Africa

Further info: Smart Skills For Smallholder Farmers



Description: This project is built on the results of a study that demonstrated how farmers living in the poorest areas around the world seek to acquire five very basic skills. The project, Skills for Marketing and Rural Transformation (SMART Skills), aims to strengthen the skills that farmers need to create sustainable links with markets and manage their resources. With a view to holistic development and sustainable results, the project includes useful e-learning models with teaching methods for farmers on profitability assessments, and applications for mapping and for real-time tracking of activities.

3. PROVIDING ALTERNATIVES TO DISPLACEMENT

→ Initiative: MIRA

Actors: Misiones Rurales Argentina

Location: Argentina - South America

Further info: https://misionesrurales.org.ar/#!/-mira/



Description: In order to strengthen rural self-preservation and resilience, Misiones Rurales Argentinas supports education projects in rural areas with scholarships to students, training for teachers, and a variety of resource materials. MIRA also helps to strengthen rural schools by financing specific rural education initiatives, which can support school operations by providing equipment; promote a culture of work; and develop sustainable productive activities. The outcomes can include better nutrition in schools and homes, and future job opportunities for pupils and/or their families. Some of the projects that have been supported relate to access to water, community gardens, farming and rabbit breeding, and sewing and weaving workshops.

4. PREPARING PEOPLE FOR DISPLACEMENT

→ Initiative: Maximizing the Value of Cash for Work

Actor: Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Location: Niger - Africa

Further info: Maximizing the Value of "Cash for Work" PDF



Description: The report in the link describes 20 best practices distilled from a recent Real Time Evaluation of EARLI, a cash-for-work program implemented by CRS in Niger.

EARLI is a USAID/OFDA-funded food security and land recuperation project in which vulnerable households in Tillabéry and Ouallam (Niger) are paid to dig half-moons (curved berms) that help reduce erosion, regenerate natural vegetation, and recuperate degraded land. In the aftermath of a disaster, CRS does more than just give food and water to those directly affected. It also provides life-saving help while working to restore local economies. The project is a response to the complex emergency in the Sahel that was triggered by shortages in the 2011 harvest, but which was the result of a much longer-term cycle of perpetual crises and shocks.

5. FOSTERING INCLUSION AND INTEGRATION

→ Initiative: Action for the Protection and Integration of Migrants in (West)
Africa (APIMA)

Actors: Catholic Relief Services (CRS), in cooperation with local Caritas partners

Location: Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Niger, and Senegal - Africa

Further info: https://www.crs.org/stories/alternatives-migration-senegal



Description: CRS promotes economic opportunity for youth among potential and returned migrants by means of life and employability skills training. The primary aim of APIMA's project is to assist migrants, their family members, other youth from their communities of origin and also their host communities to benefit from professional skills training. In Senegal, the local NGO AJRAP, with the support of CRS and Caritas, runs vocational courses in food processing, information technology, auto repair, metal work and tailoring. To better serve its participants in the current pandemic, APIMA is now working hard to adapt to this rapidly changing context. The Senegal team has made adjustments, including adapting core training from in-person to a WhatsApp format to continue giving youths access to professional skills training.

6. EXERCISING A POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON POLICY-MAKING

→ Initiative: Open letter to the UK Government

Actors: Bishop John Arnold, together with other faith leaders

Location: UK - Europe

Further info: Bishop urges Government to put climate change at the heart of

pandemic economic recovery



Description: At the start of the second annual London Climate Action Week, Bishop John Arnold joined UK faith leaders in calling for the British government to focus its economic recovery strategy, post COVID-19 lockdown, on the dire need for reducing the impact of climate change. In the open letter, representatives from Britain's faith groups urged the government to develop a new shared vision for our common home, which is "rooted in sustainability and respect for nature and the earth's resources" and "founded on the fundamental principles of justice and responsibility." Among other things, they called on the government of the UK to ensure an economic recovery focused on climate change, to implement policies for sustainability, to use its COP26 presidency to work for a global commitment to net zero, to protect biodiversity, and to restore the environment.

7. EXTENDING PASTORAL CARE

→ Initiative: Laudato Si Animators UK

Actor: Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM)

Location: UK - Europe / Global

Further info: https://laudatosianimators.org/



Description: Laudato Si Animators UK is a group of like-minded people, mainly Catholics, who have graduated from the Global Catholic Climate Movement's 'Laudato Si Animators' course. GCCM runs this online course to educate and to empower people to bring the Laudato Si encyclical to life. Specifically, this initiative was set up to educate and enable people to inspire others, in parishes, schools and in the world at large, and to engage in dialogue and action on the current environmental crisis. A wide range of resources are provided, and participants are invited to develop behaviours which are reflective and prayerful and which can be practised alone and with others. Each participant who completes the course is awarded a 'Laudato Si Animators Certificate'.

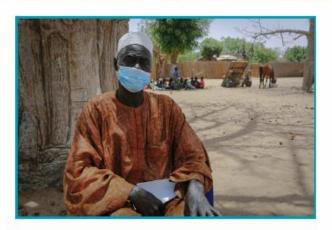
8. COOPERATING IN STRATEGIC PLANNING AND ACTION

→ Initiative: Preparing for Disaster in Senegal, ARC Replica project

Actor: Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Location: Senegal - Africa

Further info: https://www.crs.org/stories/preparing-disaster-senegal



Description: In an alliance between Start Network, the government of Senegal, African Risk Capacity Ltd. (ARC) and the German development bank KfW, CRS serves as one of six partner NGOs implementing an innovative preventative humanitarian operation to mitigate the predicted food insecurity impacts of drought. Made possible by payments from ARC's drought insurance policy, the objective of the program is to alleviate immediate hunger and cover the basic needs of people living through periods of drought. The project distributes enriched flour for pregnant and nursing women and children under 5 years old, and cash grants; in addition to screening and treatment for malnutrition, and a nutrition and hygiene education campaign. In this context, Catholic Relief Services launched ARC Replica, a cash assistance project in 204 food-insecure villages in the Mbacké and Bambey departments of the Diourbel region (Senegal), in order to support families during the particularly harsh lean season.



9. PROMOTING PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN INTEGRAL ECOLOGY

→ Initiative: About Technology in Emergency Response

Actor: Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Location: Global

Further info: Technology in Emergency Response | CRS



Description: Technology is key to CRS emergency assistance and humanitarian response. Immediately after a disaster, teams use their iPads and tablets to collect data that allows staff to quickly identify who is most in need and their location. The same technology is used for registration and monitoring the delivery of aid. For example, CRS uses mobile phones and GPS to locate key structures that have been destroyed by conflict or natural disaster, and ArcGIS software to map the assistance that is being provided in the various areas affected by the disaster. Then, using barcodes facilitates tracking the movement of relief items; ensuring that they actually reach their intended destination; and timely reporting.



10. FOSTERING ACADEMIC RESEARCH ON CCD









10. FOSTERING ACADEMIC RESEARCH ON CCD





A "pastoral" challenge

2. Need to offer an Integral response

1. Climate crisis is real

2. Strong nexus between climate crisis and displacement





Punto de Información

Instituto Universitario de Estudios sobre Migraciones

Alberto Aguilera,23

28015 - Madrid

Telf.: +34 91 542 28 00

www.comillas.edu/iuem



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Alberto Ares Mateos, SJ

alares@comillas.edu