



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Organisation internationale pour les migrations (OIM)
Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)

INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON MIGRATION 2011
THE FUTURE OF MIGRATION: BUILDING CAPACITIES FOR CHANGE

INTERSESSIONAL WORKSHOP ON

**CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION
AND MIGRATION**

29 - 30 March 2011

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

29 March 2011 DAY I	
09:00 – 10:00	Registration
10:00 – 10:10	WELCOME REMARKS
10:10 – 10:40	KEYNOTE ADDRESS
10:40 – 11:00	SETTING THE SCENE <i>This workshop will explore the policy, research, operational and technical capacities required to manage the multifaceted impact of climate change and environmental degradation on human mobility. The discussions of the various aspects of environmental migration will incorporate different dimensions of capacity building, such as access to and use of reliable and compatible data and information, institutional capacity for national policymaking and international cooperation, as well as the development of appropriate legislations. The opening presentation will outline the history and rationale of IOM's operational, research and policy interventions in this area. An overview of the key concepts and ideas relating to migration, climate change and environmental degradation, including climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, vulnerability and the role of migration as an adaptation strategy, will lay the foundation for subsequent discussions. The scene-setting presentation will also highlight relevant developments on this subject that have taken place in other regional and international fora.</i>

11:00 – 13:00	Session I: Environmental migration state of the art: Where we are, where we need to go
	<i>The outlines for an analytical research framework for trying to better understand the linkages between migration and environmental change are emerging. Thus, an essential first step in capacity building consists in establishing a more robust evidence base on these linkages. Though important strides have been made in recent years to enhance the knowledge base, significant gaps still exist at national, regional and global level: to name but a few, there is a lack of systematic data collection and data collection tools and limited knowledge on movements in relation to slow-onset disasters, on South-South migration flows and on internal movement (the latter currently being a key issue and a significant trend for the future). At the same time, systematic evaluation of policy frameworks, whether on migration, adaptation, resettlement or other issues, and of their implementation remains rare. This session, in addition to addressing the current state of knowledge and identified gaps, will offer guidance to policymakers and practitioners regarding the way forward in building research capacity and pooling expertise to better inform policy and practice.</i> The following questions are proposed to guide the discussion: • What types of capacity are needed to improve the knowledge base on migration and environmental change? How can multi-stakeholder partnerships support such efforts? • What are the methodological, practical and capacity challenges related to data collection on environmental migration and how can they best be addressed? • Which innovative approaches have been used to address current knowledge gaps including but not limited to internal movement, South-South migration flows and movement in relation to slow-onset disasters? • How can the links between the research and the policy community be strengthened to foster policy-relevant research and informed policymaking? What is the way forward? General Discussion
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Afternoon Break</i>
14:00 – 15:00	Side Event: Reducing vulnerability, building resilience <i>Already today, environmental change is a reality for people around the world and IOM and its partner organizations have developed a variety of strategies and activities to respond to the specific emerging challenges linked to those changes. In line with IOM's comprehensive approach to human mobility, interventions cover the continuum from emergency preparedness and response to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, contributing to the sustainable development of countries and communities. This side event will present an illustrative selection of concrete projects, which support governments and populations in coping with the effects of climate change.</i>

15:00 – 18:00	<u>Session II: Capacities for comprehensive responses: From emergency assistance to sustainable development</u>
	<i>Environmental factors ranging from natural disasters, such as flash floods or earthquakes, to environmental degradation, such as desertification or sea-level rise, have a negative impact on exposed and especially vulnerable countries, cities and populations around the world. They have prompted States and their partners as well as local populations to develop strategies, policies and programmes along a continuum ranging from emergency preparedness and response to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. In trying to enhance their resilience and achieve sustainable forms of development, populations and their governments have paved the way for innovative, efficient and comprehensive strategies taking into account human mobility, including minimizing and managing displacement and reducing migratory pressures. This session will present different types of responses to different types of challenges ranging from sudden to slow-onset disasters, based on sound disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation practices.</i> The following questions are proposed to guide the discussion: • What forms of capacity are required to prepare for and respond to different types of movement induced by natural disasters or environmental degradation? • What are some of the innovative approaches in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation which have proven effective in durably enhancing the resilience of local communities? • How can the links between different communities of practice be strengthened to ensure that a comprehensive approach is developed and to increase synergies and cost effectiveness in response to movement caused by environmental factors? • How to foster collaboration between affected communities, local authorities, governments and the international community, including NGOs, to achieve coherent adaptation strategies? General Discussion
	<i>End of Day One</i>

30 March 2011 DAY II	
10:00 – 10:30	MIGRANT'S VOICE
10:30 – 13:00	<u>Session III: Protecting and assisting environmental migrants: Building and strengthening frameworks and capacities</u>
	<i>Migration induced by environmental factors can and often does result in heightened vulnerability for the affected population – migrants themselves, but also origin and destination communities. Certain groups of people or regions of the world are of particular concern due to their limited resilience and high exposure to the effects of climate change. Although the human rights of all those migrating are provided for by international migration law, there remains a need to strengthen the mechanisms and capacities to ensure effective protection and assistance to environmental migrants. Guided by the broad aim to minimize displacement and guarantee the safety and security of those who do move and their home and host communities, this session will focus on instances of high vulnerability in the context of environmental migration. It will examine existing legal frameworks and operational capacities in this regard and discuss possible avenues to address the identified gaps.</i> The following questions are proposed to guide the discussion: • In what ways can migration due to environmental factors heighten or reduce the vulnerability of those on the move? What conditions, frameworks and capacities need to be in place to minimize vulnerability? What is the impact of environmental migration on communities of origin and destination? • How do existing legal frameworks, at international, regional and national levels, cover environmental migrants? Where are the gaps? • Which actors need to be involved to ensure assistance to and protection of those migrating for environmental reasons and how can their capacity to act be strengthened? • What specific measures could be put in place to assist and protect particularly vulnerable groups, including women, children, elderly, persons with disabilities and indigenous communities in the context of environmentally-induced movements? General Discussion
13:00 – 15:00	<i>Afternoon Break</i>
15:00 – 17:50	<u>Session IV: Capacity building for effective policymaking on environmental migration: Towards comprehensive policy frameworks</u>
	<i>Coordinated and complementary policies at the local, national, regional and global level are essential to effectively address the multiple dimensions of environmental migration. This session will highlight capacity building initiatives which support governments in strengthening policy coherence at the national level by, for example, identifying potential complementarities between migration policies, related policy domains and specific tools such as National Adaptation Programmes of Action or Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers. The importance of local capacity building and</i>

	<i>the role of local communities, civil society and the private sector in national policy processes will also be examined. Furthermore, the session will explore the benefits of bilateral and regional cooperation between countries facing similar environmental and migration challenges, and highlight opportunities for dialogue and shared responsibilities at the global level.</i> The following questions are proposed to guide the discussion: • Which capacities do States need to achieve better policy coherence at the national level? What are some possible options? • What is the role of local government and communities and how can capacity-building at the local level contribute to strengthening national migration policies? • What are some of the concrete examples of bilateral/regional cooperation among States experiencing similar environmental conditions and migration patterns? • What kind of synergies can be pursued between dialogues at the regional and the global level? General Discussion
17:50 – 18:00	<i>Wrap-up and Closing Remarks</i>
	<i>End of Workshop</i>