



IOM • OIM

Environmental Migration Newsletter n°1

## MIGRATION, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Dear Colleagues,

To celebrate the World Environment Day (5 of June), we are happy to present and launch the first issue of IOM's Environmental Migration Newsletter.

Environmental migration is now on the international policy agenda. This translates into a number of challenges and opportunities for our Organization. It means positioning IOM on the international arena and as a key interlocutor for UNFCCC. It implies converting our policy approach into programmes and projects and to apply lessons learnt from the field in our policy development. It signifies gaining access to new sources of funding, such as adaptation funding, and to build novel partnerships with environment actors. Finally, it also means gaining the support of our member states to make environmental migration a priority in the migration governance debate.

This Newsletter aims to present the wide ranging package of activities that IOM is undertaking to bolster research, policy and practice on environmental migration. It will be produced four times a year. Communication is key in achieving our goals; your contributions are most welcome in terms of projects, events, stories, pictures, publications and future initiatives in the realm of migration, environment and climate change.

Dear Readers, this Newsletter is yours, to read and contribute to, but please keep the green attitude and ...do not print it!

William Swing,  
Director General  
International Organization for Migration.



Families stranded in villages in the western Tando Bago area of Sindh's flood-stricken Badin district,

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### JUST RELEASED

#### International Dialogue on Migration N°18 - Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration

IOM membership selected the topic "Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration" as the focus of a workshop in Geneva, Switzerland, on 29–30 March 2011. The workshop identified some of the main areas in which governments and institutions may need to reinforce their capacities to manage the complex interactions between climate change, environmental degradation and human mobility.

Three main areas of capacity-building emerged: building knowledge and improving data collection; strengthening policy, institutional, administrative and legal frameworks; and reinforcing operational and technical capacities. The report presents the results of this policy workshop.

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION IS COMMITTED TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT HUMAN No. 18 AND ORDERLY INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION DIALOGUE BENEFITS MIGRANTS AND ON MIGRATION SOCIETY IOM ASSISTS IN MEETING THE GROWING OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION MANAGEMENT CLIMATE CHANGE, ADVANCES ENVIRONMENTAL UNDERSTANDING OF DEGRADATION MIGRATION ISSUES AND MIGRATION ENCOURAGES SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MIGRATION UPHOLDS THE HUMAN DIGNITY AND WELL-BEING OF MIGRANTS



## IN THE PIPELINE

“**Handbook on Factoring Migration into Adaptation Strategies**” is a policy project being developed by IOM in 2012 aimed at producing a policy tool for adaptation and migration practitioners. The Handbook aims to provide a step-by-step roadmap and methodology to integrate human mobility into adaptation planning. It will be developed in collaboration with external partners, as well as with a group of practitioners. The UNFCCC “Synthesis report on the support for the national adaptation plan (NAP) process for the least developed countries” (Bonn meeting, May 2012) makes reference to IOM’s submission to the NAPs’ implementation process and thus is a step forward to bringing migration into adaptation planning. The Handbook will contribute to this process. (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2012/sbi/eng/08.pdf>)

### Asia-Pacific Migration and Environment Network (APMEN):

The Asian Development Bank (ADB)-IOM initiative, APMEN (to be launched in the second half of 2012) will act as a virtual network and website to promote new research, increase information exchange and dialogue, fill the gaps in the existing data, research and knowledge on the migration-environment nexus. The website will provide an interface with news and developments in policy and legislation, while the network will facilitate the sharing of research and produce country reports pertaining to this nexus in the Asia-Pacific region. The goal is to benefit a wide range of stakeholders: policymakers, academics, and representatives from non- and inter-governmental organizations.



## PROJECT IN FOCUS

**Building Community Resilience through Climate Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Measures in Vulnerable Populations in the North Pacific** is a Climate Adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction and Education (CADRE) Programme approved in 2012 and funded by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), and to be implemented throughout the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI).

The small island developing states of the FSM and the RMI, located in the North Pacific region, are directly facing the challenges associated with climate variability and change. The region has also been affected in the past by a number of natural hazards, including: **typhoons, storm surge, droughts, flooding**, as well as, secondary impacts, such as **landslides**. Moreover, **fire, water and food shortages** have also occurred during severe drought events.

Utilizing IOM’s existing presence in the region and expertise in climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness, CADRE will target approximately 10,000 school-age students at up to 50 schools and surrounding communities. At the conclusion of the Program it is expected that IOM will:

1. Support sustainable adaptation and preparedness strategies, and increase the resilience of vulnerable schools and communities to climate change and natural hazards in the FSM and RMI;
2. Empower schools and communities to independently cope with, and respond to, natural disasters; thereby filling a gap in the communication and education sectors by combining climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR);
3. Support government efforts in the implementation of their national policies and strategies pertaining to adaptation and disaster risk reduction;
4. Implement practices to assist in safe guarding the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) in the context of climate change and the impacts to which it is linked.



*Ohmine Elementary School students performing their short skit during the CADRE Pilot Program Closing Ceremony.*

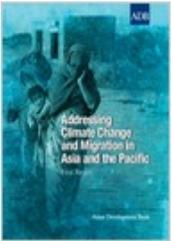
## REPORTS



### The State of Environmental Migration, IDDRI and IOM (2011)

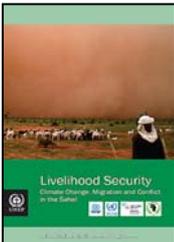
This volume is the first of an annual series, which will aim to provide the reader with regularly updated qualitative assessments on the changing nature and dynamics of environmental migration throughout the world. The idea for it stemmed from the course «Environment and Migration», taught at the Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA) of Sciences Po, that examines the complex relationship between environmental change and migration flows. For their final assignment, students were asked to select and analyse a 2010 specific case of environmental migration, be it a sudden and violent natural disaster or a slow-onset environmental degradation. The best of these papers have been selected and edited, and are presented in this volume. **The 2012 Edition is in preparation and will feature case studies from the year 2011.**

[http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/STUDY0711\\_SEM2010\\_web3.pdf](http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/STUDY0711_SEM2010_web3.pdf)



### Addressing Climate Change and Migration in Asia and the Pacific—ADB 2012

This report presents a detailed picture of the potential impacts of climate change on migration in Asia and the Pacific. It draws upon a wealth of research to provide policymakers with informed analysis of an emerging phenomenon requiring urgent attention by governments and the international community. The report also suggests that climate-induced migration should be seen not only as a threat to human well-being but also as a potential tool to promote human adaptation to climate change. Two policy dialogues organized by ADB and IOM have directly contributed to the elaboration of the report. (<http://www.iom.int/event/adbdialogue>)



### Livelihood Security: Climate Change, Migration and Conflict in the Sahel 2011

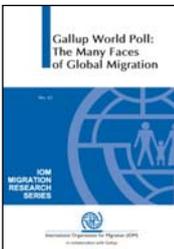
The report was jointly produced by UNEP, IOM, OCHA, UNU and the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), the University of Salzburg's Centre for Geoinformatics (Z\_GIS) and funded by the Government of Finland. It analyses the historical climate trends in the region, identifies hotspots and determines the potential implications for livelihoods which depend on natural resources. It also provides recommendations for improving conflict and migration sensitivity in adaptation planning, investments and policies across the region. The report was released in Durban at COP17. Follow-up implementation activities are planned for 2012. ([http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=1&products\\_id=790](http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=1&products_id=790))



### International Migration, Vol. 49 Issue 3 — Environmentally Induced Migration in the Context of Social Vulnerability 2011

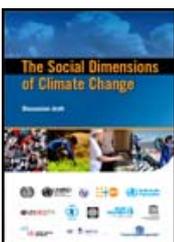
*International Migration* is a bimonthly review of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on current migration issues as analyzed by demographers, economists, and sociologists all over the world. The journal is edited at Georgetown University's Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM) and published and distributed by Blackwell Publishing. This issue offers insights in vulnerability and resilience in the context of environmentally-induced migration and provides examples from Ghana, Benin, Niger, Mozambique, Western Sahara, Mekong Delta, etc.

[http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=6&products\\_id=710](http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=6&products_id=710)



### IOM Migration Research Series MRS N°43 - Gallup World Poll: The Many Faces of Global Migration 2011

This report is an introduction to what Gallup has compiled by asking migrants and potential migrants worldwide about their lives. The data presented in this report are based on Gallup's ongoing World Poll surveys in more than 150 countries, territories and regions and more than 750,000 interviews since 2005. One of the chapters is dedicated to migration and environment and offers an innovative and unique understanding of the importance of environmental factors in migration aspirations. (<http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/MRS43.pdf>)



### The Social Dimensions of Climate Change 2011

This discussion paper was prepared under the auspices of the United Nations Task Team on Social Dimensions of Climate Change, which is currently composed of 20 agencies. The paper addresses the social dimensions of climate change from a sustainable, equitable development perspective. It aims to broaden and deepen policymakers' understanding of the benefits of addressing and incorporating the social dimensions of climate change into climate policies. Migration is one of the areas analyzed in this report that was released at the COP17 in Durban in December 2011.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

20-22 June 2012

**Rio + 20**



On 20-22 June, IOM will be participating at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) RIO+20 Conference along with States, NGOs, private sector and other groups to advance global strategies in reducing poverty, advance social equity and ensure environmental protection. IOM believes that Rio+20 could provide strong input to the post-2015 development framework by informing the articulation of potential sustainable development goals (SDGs). IOM would like to highlight three sectorial priorities of particular relevance for Rio+20: 1) Rural Migration and Urban Settlements, 2) Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction and 3) Migration and Sustainable Development. The Organization has made suggestions for factoring migration and human mobility into the Rio+20 zero draft. Finally, together with UNHCR and UNISDR, IOM will organize a side event entitled *Vulnerability of urban migrants: Challenges and responses*.

13 - 14 June 2012 :

**Environmental Migration in the MENA Region organized by Agence Française de Développement (AFD), World Bank, IDDRI (the French think tank for sustainable development)**



This event will look at 'Climate shocks, migration and development: Quantitative analysis'; 'Factors and determinants of environmental migrations'; 'Perceptions of climate change impacts by population and institutions' and 'Public policies and environmental migrations'. Pasquale Lupoli, Head of IOM Regional Office in Egypt, Maurizio Busatti, Head of IOM Paris and ICP Policy Officer, Dina Ionesco, will be contributing to the event with perspectives from the region as well as policy recommendations relating to IOM's full circle approach in managing environmental migration.

## RECENT EVENTS

- ☞ **Asia Pacific Adaptation Forum Bangkok, March 2012** The event focused on the governance of adaptation to climate change and how adaptation and development policies are linked showcasing practices and experiences of adaptation initiatives at local national and regional levels. The Forum was organized by UNEP, UNDP, Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia, Asia Pacific Adaptation Network, Stockholm Environment Institute, Swedish Environmental Secretariat for Asia and the Asia and Asian Development Bank (ADB). IOM contributed to the ADB-organized panel on "Climate-induced Migration and Livelihood Security" that framed environmental migration in the regional context and presented case studies and policy questions. <http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/adaptationforum2012>
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- ☞ **Brookings-LSE Project on Internal Displacement, April 2012** This workshop addressed the gaps in present normative frameworks and the pros and cons of coming up with new instruments for climate change displacement, migration and resettlement. A publication with a chapter by Michele Klein Solomon and professor Koko Warner (UNU) will build on this event. [http://www.brookings.edu/events/2012/0403\\_climate\\_migration.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/events/2012/0403_climate_migration.aspx)
  - ☞ **Mobility, Migrations, Development and Environment, May 2012 University of South Africa in Pretoria (UNISA)** The seminar explored research and capacities in African countries to address environmental migration. IOM (Shahidul Haque) presented in the event <http://momiden-2012.info/>
  - ☞ **Migration and Global Environmental Change in Ghana, March 2012** organized by National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) Ghana and funded by the UK Government Office of Science Foresight programme (in association with DFID Ghana and MEST a not-for-profit organization of Meltwater Group) discussed the results of the Foresight report, with contributions from IOM Ghana (Dyane Epstein).
  - ☞ **Advanced Seminar on Migration, Refugees, Climate Change and Law, February 2012.** The Seminar was co-organized by the Geneva Center for Security Policy (GCSP), International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL) and IOM to discuss migration impacts of climate change, the gaps in the existing legal and normative frameworks, effective options and how can they be implemented. The Seminar gathered practitioners from climate change affected countries. <http://www.gcsp.ch/New-Issues-in-Security/Events/Advanced-Seminar-on-Migration-Refugees-Climate-Change-and-Law>



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**CONTACT US!**

If you would like to highlight a project or include a feature in the Environmental Migration Newsletter we would greatly welcome your input. Please contact:

Dina Ionesco  
Migration Policy Officer  
[dionesco@iom.int](mailto:dionesco@iom.int)

Daniel Salmon  
Project Support Officer  
[dsalmon@iom.int](mailto:dsalmon@iom.int)

Please visit our website:  
[www.iom.int/envmig](http://www.iom.int/envmig)

**IN THE NEWS**

Climate change, desertification and migration: Connecting the dots, Responding to Climate Change (RTCC) is a Non-governmental Organization and an official observer to the United Nations climate change negotiations. April 2012. <http://www.rtcc.org/living/climate-change-desertification-and-migration-connecting-the-dots/>

“Climate-induced migration a growing humanitarian threat” REUTERS and Win Alert Net News Tuesday, March 13, 2012. <http://www.worldweatherpost.com/2012/03/13/climate-induced-migration-a-growing-humanitarian-threat-report>

**SPOTLIGHT ON**

**“Virtual working group for project development on environmental migration”**

To enhance collaboration and the sharing of experience among colleagues, three departments in headquarters (ICP, DOE and DMM) will launch a group that aims to gather colleagues in field missions and headquarters with experience in migration, environment and climate change related activities. The group is informal and will develop its own working functionalities. Further details will be shared via email on modalities and participation.

**5 STEPS TO REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT**

1. **Coffee / Tea breaks:** boil only the amount of water you need, rather than filling the kettle every time;
2. **Consider the environment before printing documents:** keep and share them electronically, save paper, save trees;
3. **Recycle:** use the boxes for paper in your office and the PET recycling boxes;
4. **Economize energy for tomorrow:** use daylight when your office is sunny and turn off the light in unoccupied offices.
5. **Conserve your computer's energy: Turn off your monitor** when you don't use your computer. A monitor accounts for roughly a third of the electrical usage of your entire computer! **Turn off the screensaver!** According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), turning off the screensaver can save from 25 USD to 75 USD a year on energy costs alone for one computer. This means savings from 5,000 USD to 15,000 USD a year for the IOM HQ!



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