

Climate Change, Migration, and Security in the Horn of Africa

Symposium Report

MAY 24, 2023



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Symposium Convenors

About the HORN Institute: The HORN International Institute for Strategic Studies is a non-profit, applied research and policy think-do tank based in Nairobi, Kenya. The Institute works closely with local communities, governmental and non-governmental organisations and partners on various projects and activities focusing on six thematic areas: defence and security; terrorism and violent extremism; climate change, migration, and development, diplomacy and foreign relations; governance and statecraft; and transnational crimes and strategic threats with a primary focus on 13 countries that include; Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Djibouti, Eritrea, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, Central African Republic, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. In 2021, the Institute was ranked 18th globally behind leading Think Tanks such as Brookings, Chatham House, and Hoover Institutions, among others. Indeed, the HORN Institute has become the go-to think tank for opinion and analysis on its key thematic areas by local as well as leading international media houses.

About Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS): Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) is a German political foundation that works worldwide to promote and preserve democracy, peace, freedom and justice through political education. The KAS is present with over 20 field offices across Sub-Saharan Africa. In addition to our Country Offices, our Regional Programmes complement the Foundation's country-specific activities and deal with particular issues from a regional perspective. The Regional Programme Security Dialogue for East Africa deals with security affairs and international relations in Eastern Africa. The thematic area of security affairs is to be understood in a broader sense. In addition to interstate and intrastate conflicts in East Africa and the development of (Islamist) terrorist organisations in the region, the RP SIPODI East Africa also deals with topics from the areas of flight and migration as well as the impact of climate change on security.



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AFAN	African Faith-based Network for Climate Justice
AU	African Union
COP27	Conference of the Parties
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FES	Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
HMCCC	Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change
ICPAC	Climate Prediction and Application Centre
IDPs	Internally displaced persons
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IOM	Organization for Migration
IPSTC	International Peace Support Training Center
KALRO	Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization
KAS	Konrad Adenauer Stiftung
MPIE	Max-Planck-Institut für Eisenforschung
MSF	Médecins sans Frontières
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
NUT	Malnutrition
PACJA	Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance
SIPRI	Stockholm International Peace Research Institute
SNNP	Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



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Acknowledgement

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We also want to appreciate, in a special way, our keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Lesmore Gibson Ezekiel, Director of Programmes, All Africa Conference of Churches for gracing the occasion and all diplomats from various missions including Germany, Brazil, Australia, Qatar, Norway, among others for attending and participating in this important symposium. Sincere appreciation once again for all the participants and presenters for their invaluable contributions to this symposium. Your collective efforts will undoubtedly contribute to a better understanding of the challenges faced by the region and pave the way for more effective and sustainable solutions.



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Executive Summary

The symposium organized by the HORN Institute, in partnership with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) themed *Climate Change, Migration and Security in the Horn of Africa* took place on May 24, 2023, in Nairobi, Kenya. The symposium aimed to deepen the understanding of complex intersection between climate change and migration and security in the Horn of Africa region. The main themes included climate change and its impact on the Horn of Africa region focusing on key trends, impact, responses by various actors, and ways of promoting human security and regional stability in the context of climate-induced migration and security. The symposium brought together experts, scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and representatives from UNEP, IGAD, AU, and FAO, including security, migration, development, climate change, and governance, as well as think tanks, intergovernmental organisations, and diplomats.





The discussion yielded important findings. *First*, Africa, particularly the Horn of Africa, is highly vulnerable to climate change, with prolonged droughts leading to food insecurity and forced migration. *Second*, climate change is a primary driver of migration in the IGAD region, with rising temperatures, extreme weather events, and resource scarcity pushing communities to seek better opportunities elsewhere. *Third*, fragility and humanitarian crises in the Horn of Africa have been worsened by climate-related problems, political conflicts, and economic crises, leading to collapsed health systems and protection issues. *Fourth*, there is a climate adaptation gap in the Horn of Africa, with inadequate communication of climate change information, a lack of alignment of national policies with climate change urgency, and insufficient

financing for adaptation efforts. *Fifth*, migration policies and the rule of law have had limited effectiveness in addressing migration challenges caused by climate change in the Horn of Africa, highlighting the need for legal frameworks to protect the rights of climate migrants. *Sixth*, climate-induced migration exposes women and girls to increased gender-based violence and exacerbates gender inequalities. *And seventh*, the African Union, IGAD, UNEP, and FAO have developed various responses and strategies to address climate change, migration, and security in the region, including resilience-building, regional cooperation, early warning systems, and capacity building programmes. However, increased access to finance and capacity-building is needed for more effective action.

Key recommendations that emerged from the forum include: *first*, African Union should foster collaboration among member states, integrate these concerns into national policies, invest in regional early warning systems, and prioritize sustainable development practices. *Second*, the United Nations should facilitate coordination, provide assistance to countries in the IGAD region, advocate for international legal frameworks, and promote data collection. *Third*, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) should strengthen cooperation in the Horn of Africa. *Fourth*, African governments should focus on food security. Religious leaders should be proactive on climate change. *Fifth*, regional governments and economic communities should foster cooperation and advocate for increased financing



and capacity building. *And sixth*, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) should promote climate-smart practices. These recommendations collectively seek to tackle the interconnected challenges facing Africa and promote resilience, cooperation, and sustainable development.

The symposium provided a valuable platform for experts, policymakers,

and organisations to deepen their understanding of climate-induced insecurity and migration in the Horn of Africa. It yielded important findings on the vulnerability of the region to climate change, the role of climate in driving migration, and the need for enhanced adaptation and policy frameworks. The key recommendations emphasize collaboration, integration of concerns into national policies, strengthening

regional cooperation, and promoting sustainable development practices, aiming to address the interconnected challenges of climate change, migration, and security in Africa and promote resilience and sustainable development.



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Background

Climate change has increased the frequency and magnitude of extreme weather events in the Horn of Africa and created social, economic, environmental, and security challenges. It has caused loss of lives; increased local resource competition; diminished livelihoods; reduced crop and livestock production, leading to volatile food prices; damaged infrastructure, and displaced people from their homes (Climate Diplomacy, 2015; UNEP, 2022).

Although the Horn of Africa countries generate only 0.1% of the world's emissions, they are currently experiencing their fifth failed rainy season in a row, perhaps the worst drought in four decades. As a result, approximately 36.1 million individuals have been impacted, and 8.9 million livestock has been lost. This has partly contributed to an increase in the frequency and severity of migration in and out of Africa, particularly the ones induced by droughts, water scarcity, security, desertification, deforestation, coastal erosion, and rising sea levels. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Horn of Africa region was home to 13.2 million forced migrants in 2021, including 9.6 million Internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 3.6 million refugees and asylum seekers. The eruption of the Tigray Conflict, renewed conflicts across South Sudan, and internal conflict in Sudan have contributed to a worsening humanitarian situation, insecurity, and regional instability.

Against this background, the HORN Institute, in partnership with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS), held a one-day symposium on May 24, 2023, in Nairobi, Kenya to discuss the challenges of climate change and its impact on migration and security. The symposium provided the much-needed platform to discuss the complex challenges and opportunities of the climate-migration-security nexus as well as explore potential solutions and strategies to address them. The symposium also facilitated collaboration among experts, policymakers, the United Nations, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), African Union (AU), and stakeholders from the region and beyond to share knowledge, best practices, and lessons learned, with the ultimate aim of enhancing the resilience of affected communities and promoting human security and regional stability.

The symposium was attended by over 50 participants from the Horn of Africa region and beyond. The speakers included experts from academia, government, civil society, and the private sector. The discussions focused on a range of topics, including the impacts of climate change on migration, the security implications of climate-induced migration, and the role of regional and international cooperation in addressing the climate-migration-security nexus.





Symposium Objectives

The Symposium sought to

1. Discuss the manifestations and challenges of climate change and its impact on migration on the security nexus.
2. Share knowledge and best practices on how to enhance the resilience of affected communities.
3. Examine the existing climate change, migration and security response frameworks by local, regional, and international bodies/organisations relevant to the region.
4. Explore the best practices for effective mitigation and adaptation to climate change in the Horn of Africa.



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Symposium Format

The symposium featured a comprehensive programme consisting of five sessions and four panels, each dedicated to exploring different aspects of the interplay between climate change, migration, and security. The panel sessions were organized around the following themes:

Panel One: Climate change, migration, and security: key trends. This panel aimed to shed light on the fundamental trends associated with climate change-induced migration and its impact on security. Presenters included:

- Mr. Misiani Herbert, Climate Scientist and Director of the IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre, delivered a presentation titled *Climate Change-Induced Migration: Patterns, Trends, and Climate Monitoring in the IGAD Region*.
- Monica Camacho, Humanitarian Representative for Central and East Africa at Médecins Sans Frontiers, discussed the *Humanitarian Perspective of Climate-Related Migration*.
- Sagal Abshir, from the Environment Security Unit at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), shared insights on *The Climate Adaptation Gap in the Horn of Africa*.





Panel Two: Climate change, migration, and security: impact. The second panel focused on examining the tangible impact of climate change on migration and its security implications. Presenters in this panel were:

- Lt Col Japheth Mwasaru, Head of Research at the International Peace Support Training Center (IPSTC) – Kenya, presented on the *Impact of Climate Change on Peace and Security in the Horn of Africa Region*.
- Dr. Nancy Omolo, a Gender and Climate Change Consultant, explored the *Gender Dimensions of Climate-Induced Migration in the Horn of Africa Region*.
- Dr. Eliud K. Kireger, OGW, Director General of the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO), discussed the *Impact of Climate Change on Kenya’s Food Security*.

Panel Three: Climate change, migration, and security: Responses. This panel delved into the various responses and strategies employed to address the challenges posed by climate change-induced migration on security. Key presenters included:

- Dr. Evans Kituyi, a senior associate at Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), presented the *Reducing the Impact of Climate Change on Human Security in Africa’s Hotspots - ClimSec-Africa Strategy*.
- Elizabeth Gitari-Mitaru, an Environmental and Conservation Law Attorney, focused on *The Law and Climate Migration in the Horn of Africa Region*.
- Oumalkhaire Yacin Abdi, an Environmental Specialist, shared insights on *Building Climate Resilience in Rural Communities*.



Panel Four: Climate change, migration, and security: promoting human security and regional stability. The fourth and final panel concentrated on strategies aimed at promoting human security and regional stability in the face of climate change-induced migration. Eminent representatives in this panel included:

- Harsen Nyambe, Director of the Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy Directorate at the African Union Commission, presented on *Responses and Strategies by the African Union (AU)*.
- Misiani Herbert, Climate Scientist at the IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre, shared perspectives on “Responses and Strategies by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).”
- Dr. Elizabeth Carabine, Climate Security Advisor at the Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa (OSE-Horn of Africa), discussed *Responses and Strategies by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) – Climate Security Mechanism*.
- Dr. Thecla Mutia, an Environment and Climate Change Expert at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Kenya, who represented FAO’s Assistant Programmes Officer, Hamisi Williams. She explored *Responses and Strategies by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations*.

Session One

Moderator: **Hassan Khannenje, Ph.D.**, Director, the HORN Institute

Opening Remarks by Nils Wörmer, KAS Regional Director, Regional Programme Security Dialogue for East Africa

Nils Wörmer welcomed participants to the symposium and noted that climate change, migration, and security are three interconnected issues that require immediate attention and collaborative efforts. The Horn of Africa, a region known for its rich cultural heritage, strategic location, and immense potential, has faced significant consequences due to these intertwined challenges. Experts must delve into the complexities and explore viable solutions that can safeguard the well-being and future of this region.

He further noted that climate change has become an undeniable reality, and its effects have been felt across the globe. However, the Horn of Africa has been particularly vulnerable to its impacts. The region has experienced rising temperatures, erratic rainfall patterns, prolonged droughts, and more frequent and intense natural disasters. These environmental changes have led to the loss of livelihoods, food insecurity, and the displacement of communities. As a result, migration has become a means of survival for many, further exacerbating existing social, economic, and security challenges.



The consequences of climate change and migration have been intrinsically linked to security dynamics in the Horn of Africa. Scarce resources, competition over water and land, ethnic tensions, and conflicts have been intensified by environmental stressors and population movements. This symposium aims to explore the complex relationships between climate change, migration, and security, and to identify practical and sustainable approaches to address these challenges.

Mr. Wörmer added that Konrad Adenauer Stiftung is committed to fostering dialogue, cooperation, and knowledge exchange to promote stability and development in the region. Through their *Regional Programme Security Dialogue for East Africa*, KAS works with governments, civil society organisations, academia, and local communities to create platforms for dialogue, research, and policy development. The symposium aligns with KAS's broader commitment to enhancing security, strengthening resilience, and ensuring sustainable development in the Horn of Africa.

Throughout the symposium, he stated, participants will have the privilege of hearing from renowned experts, policymakers, practitioners, and community representatives. Their insights and experiences will enrich their understanding of the challenges and opportunities presented by climate change, migration, and security in the Horn of Africa. He encouraged

all participants to actively engage in discussions, share their expertise, and contribute to the collective knowledge and solutions that have emerged from this symposium. He rallied the participants to foster an inclusive and constructive environment where diverse perspectives are respected and valued.



Keynote Address by Rev, Lesmore Gibson Ezekiel, NCE BA, B.Th Hons, M,Th, MAS, Ph.D., Director of Programmes, All African Conference of Churches

Rev. Lesmore Gibson Ezekiel, the Director of Programmes at the All African Conference of Churches, delivered a keynote address focusing on the influence of religion in promoting collective good and social-ecological justice. The speech highlighted the need for religious leaders to take responsibility in addressing climate change issues and called for increased action and accountability from developed nations.

Rev. Ezekiel emphasized the establishment of the African Faith-based Network for Climate Justice (AFAN) as a platform to address climate change issues. He stressed that religion should not remain silent when it comes to treating climate change, particularly in light of the devastating drought in the Horn region. The speech also referred to recent discussions in the Pan-African Parliament, where the importance of considering climate change in legislation was highlighted.

Rev. Ezekiel highlighted the responsibilities placed on developed nations by international agreements such as the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.



He pointed out the lack of evidence of Africa's significant contribution to climate change but emphasized the impact on small island nations due to rising sea levels. The failure of developed nations to contribute the promised annual \$100 billion since 2015 was mentioned, with particular emphasis on the conditions attached to the available funds.

The keynote address highlighted several concerns and challenges related to climate change. Rev. Ezekiel expressed disappointment with the outcomes of COP27 and the lack of concrete mechanisms to address issues such as animal destruction, forced displacement, and conflicts between farmers and pastoralists in Africa. The speech also highlighted specific climate-related events in Malawi, Zambia, and DR Congo, including landslides and droughts, as evidence of the continent's vulnerability to climate change.

Rev. Ezekiel called for collaboration among religious leaders and emphasized their role in finding ways to mitigate the impacts of climate change. He called for holding the largest carbon emitters accountable and analyzing who benefits from the carbon market

and credits. The need to care for the Earth and the interconnectedness of humanity with the ecosystem, including forests and mineral resources, were also highlighted. Rev. Ezekiel drew attention to the “champagne glass economy,” characterized by inequality, and stressed the connection between racism and climate change crisis adaptation,

mitigation, and commercialization. He urged the audience to take responsibility and actively address these issues.

Rev. Lesmore Gibson Ezekiel’s keynote address emphasized the importance of religion in promoting collective good and social-ecological justice in the face of climate change. The speech called

for religious leaders to actively engage in addressing climate change issues, hold polluting nations accountable and work towards a more equitable and sustainable future. The role of religion in raising awareness, advocating for change, and fostering collaboration was highlighted as crucial in achieving climate justice.



“ ... religion should not remain silent when it comes to treating climate change, particularly in light of the devastating drought in the Horn region ”

Session Two

Moderator: **Prof. Fred Jonyo, Ph.D.**, Chairman, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Nairobi

Panel One: Climate Change, Migration, and Security: Key Trends

Climate Change-Induced Migration: Patterns, Trends, and Climate Monitoring in the IGAD Region by Misiani Herbert, Climate Scientist, IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC)

The presentation focused on the impact of climate change on migration patterns and trends in the IGAD region, highlighting the drivers of migration, decreased trends in specific areas, and the consequences of climate-related disasters on displacement. Mr. Misiani emphasized the significance of addressing climate change, building capacity for adaptation, and ensuring food security in the face of these challenges.



Drivers of Migration in the IGAD Region

The presentation identified climate change as a primary driver of migration in the IGAD region. Rising temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, and extreme weather events have severe implications for livelihoods, agriculture, and human well-being. These factors, coupled with environmental degradation and resource scarcity, push communities to migrate in search of better opportunities and adaptive solutions.

Decrease Trends in Specific Pockets

While migration is prevalent in the IGAD region, certain areas have shown a decrease in migration trends. This decline can be attributed to several factors, including limited access to resources, conflicts over scarce resources, and limited opportunities for economic growth. These localized patterns of migration require further investigation to better understand the underlying causes and develop targeted interventions.

Displacement Due to Climate-Related Disasters

Mr. Misiani noted that the IGAD region experiences frequent climate-related disasters, resulting in the displacement of communities. The majority of displaced individuals are Internally displaced persons (IDPs) who are forced to leave their homes due to factors such as droughts, floods, and other climate-related events. These displacements pose significant challenges to the affected populations and place an additional burden on host communities and humanitarian agencies.

Human Mortality and Climate-Related Displacement

The presentation highlighted the impact of climate-related displacement

on human mortality, particularly in the context of flood displacement projects. Joint programmes such as the MPE and GIZ HMCCC programme have been working to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and enhance resilience. However, the increasing temperatures and changing climate patterns, especially in the northern sector, have led to an alarming rise in flooding, affecting 2.2 million people and displacing 1.34 million individuals.

Climate Change, Capacity Development, Agriculture, and Food Security

Addressing climate change-induced migration requires a comprehensive approach that includes capacity development, agricultural resilience, and ensuring food security. Strengthening the capacity of governments, institutions, and communities to adapt to climate change is crucial. Additionally, promoting sustainable agriculture

practices, diversification of livelihoods, and implementing measures to enhance food security will play a significant role in reducing the vulnerability of communities and minimizing the need for migration.

Conclusion

The presentation by Misiani Herbert shed light on the patterns and trends of climate change-induced migration in the IGAD region. The drivers of migration, decrease trends in specific areas, and the consequences of climate-related disasters on displacement were discussed. Climate change poses significant challenges to the region, impacting human well-being, livelihoods, and food security. To address these issues, a coordinated effort involving governments, regional organisations, and international partners is necessary. By focusing on climate monitoring, capacity development, and sustainable agricultural practices.



Humanitarian Perspective of Climate-Related Migration by Monica Camacho, Humanitarian Representative for Central and East Africa, Médecins Sans Frontiers

Introduction

The keynote presentation by Monica Camacho, a representative from Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), delved into the humanitarian perspective of climate-related migration. It offered a comprehensive analysis of the challenges encountered by regions grappling with conflict, climate-related problems, and severe economic crises. This section aims to provide a detailed overview of Monica Camacho's



keynotes, highlighting the critical issues discussed and their implications for humanitarian action.

Context

The region under scrutiny is grappling with a trifecta of challenges, including political conflicts, climate-related adversities such as droughts and floods, and severe economic downturns characterized by high inflation rates. The combination of these factors has created a dire situation for the affected communities, necessitating urgent humanitarian intervention. Using data compiled by Acled, Monica Camacho presented a detailed map illustrating the areas heavily impacted by political conflicts. The dark spots on the map denoted regions experiencing significant political turmoil. The analysis

highlighted the evolving nature of conflicts in the region over the past two months, enabling stakeholders to better understand the dynamics and plan appropriate interventions.

Specific Regional Challenges

- a) Kenya: Approximately 3.307 million people in Kenya are grappling with high levels of food insecurity. This staggering figure underscores the urgent need for targeted humanitarian assistance in the country.
- b) Ethiopia: 24 million people reside in drought-affected areas. Out of this population, 13 million individuals are the primary target for humanitarian aid. Moreover, the analysis identified approximately 60 woredas in high alert and 175 in medium-risk areas, predominantly located in the Somali Region, Oromia, Afar, and SNNP regions.

MSF Response Efforts

Monica Camacho provided a detailed overview of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)'s response efforts in the region, highlighting the key areas where interventions have been undertaken. In Kenya, MSF has taken proactive steps by initiating response efforts in Marsabit, Mandera, and the Dadaab refugee camp. These initiatives prioritize crucial aspects such as healthcare, nutrition, and other critical services, aiming to alleviate the suffering of those affected. In Somalia, MSF remains actively engaged in providing aid to communities in Jubaland and Baidoa. Additionally, they have responded swiftly to the emergency crisis in LasAnood, although the focus of this response lies primarily on urgent healthcare needs rather than nutrition-related issues. Meanwhile, in Ethiopia, MSF's response efforts have extended across multiple regions, encompassing areas such as Afar, the Somali Region, and Oromia. Ongoing assessments are being conducted in Borana, to identify and address the most pressing humanitarian needs in the area. By focusing on these key intervention areas, MSF strives to make a significant impact and improve the overall well-being of the affected populations.

Key Challenges

The presentation highlighted several critical challenges faced in addressing the humanitarian crisis:

1. The situation is unprecedented due to five consecutive below-average rain seasons.

2. The communities affected are already fragile and have experienced multiple shocks, including the COVID-19 pandemic, conflict, climate-related issues, and the high cost of living. Their health systems are already struggling or have collapsed.
3. The ongoing crises have caused organisations to stretch their resources and reprioritize target groups, including balancing prevention efforts with emergency response and saving lives.
4. The situation is worsened by funding reductions and a slow response from aid organisations.
5. The most heavily affected communities, which are harder to reach, are pastoralists, scattered, and prone to conflict, which is exacerbated by the drought.
6. In addition to malnutrition (NUT), these populations are also facing outbreaks of measles, cholera, and other vaccine-preventable diseases, further straining already stretched health systems.
7. The availability of medical data is crucial to gaining a clear understanding of the situation.
8. Protection issues have been intensified, with high levels of sexual violence, primarily affecting girls and women.
9. The dire situations extend beyond the Horn of Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia) to also include Sudan and South Sudan.

Conclusion

Monica Camacho's presentation on the humanitarian perspective of climate-related migration shed light on the multifaceted challenges faced by the affected communities. The detailed analysis and insights presented provide valuable perspectives for organisations, policymakers, and researchers involved in addressing the humanitarian crisis. Immediate and coordinated efforts must be undertaken to alleviate the suffering of the affected populations and build resilience against future climate-related adversities.

“ Immediate and coordinated efforts must be undertaken to alleviate the suffering of the affected populations and build resilience against future climate-related adversities ”



The climate adaptation gap in the Horn of Africa by Sagal Abshir, Environment Security Unit, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Introduction

This section provides an overview of the climate adaptation gap in the Horn of Africa, as presented by Sagal Abshir from the Environment Security Unit at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Sagal highlights three key trends and gaps that hinder effective climate adaptation in the region: the link between climate change and conflict, the quality of information on climate change impacts, and the insufficient national policies, laws, and strategies. Additionally, it emphasizes the need for increased global efforts and financing to address the adaptation gap.



Trend 1: Link between Climate Change and Conflict

The region faces transboundary challenges, particularly with the mobility of pastoral communities. Conflicts arising from resource scarcity and competition have become more frequent, posing significant challenges to effective climate adaptation. It is crucial to develop adaptive strategies and solutions that consider the complex dynamics of these conflicts and the unique needs of the affected communities.

Trend 2: Quality of Information on Climate Change Impacts

There is a gap in effectively translating climate change information into actionable strategies. While there is a growing body of knowledge on the impacts of climate change, it is often not effectively disseminated or utilized to tackle adaptation challenges in the Horn of Africa. There is a need for improved communication channels and knowledge-sharing platforms to bridge this gap. Developing adaptation reports specific to the region and integrating climate change considerations into development activities would enhance the effectiveness of adaptation efforts.

Trend 3: Insufficient National Policies, Laws, and Strategies

Ms. Sagal highlighted the inadequate alignment of national policies, laws, and strategies with the urgency of climate change adaptation in the Horn of Africa. While there has been an increase in global efforts to address climate change, national frameworks have not kept pace. The existing policies and strategies often focus on incremental changes rather than transformative actions. Additionally, there is a lack of attention and implementation on the ground, further exacerbating the adaptation gap. Financing for climate adaptation, including the 29 funds initiated, remains inadequate to support the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of the region.

Recommendations

1. The climate adaptation gap in the Horn of Africa necessitates urgent action to address the identified trends and gaps. To bridge this gap effectively, the following recommendations are proposed:
2. Strengthen field support and technical assistance to enhance local capacity in climate change adaptation and conflict management related to resource scarcity.
3. Establish knowledge-sharing platforms and communication channels to bridge the gap between climate change

research and local communities, and develop actionable strategies through adaptation reports.

4. Align national policies, laws, and strategies with the urgency of climate change adaptation, emphasizing transformative actions addressing vulnerability and building resilience at the community level.
5. Mobilize increased global financing to support climate adaptation efforts in the Horn of Africa, prioritizing

“ **Align national policies, laws, and strategies with the urgency of climate change adaptation, emphasizing transformative actions addressing vulnerability and building resilience at the community level** ”

funding for NDC implementation and sustainable financing mechanisms.

Comments and Q&A

Question: How can we take SMART action on climate change?

Response: By adopting renewable energy sources, reducing carbon emissions, promoting sustainable practices, implementing climate adaptation and resilience measures, and engaging in collaborative partnerships with stakeholders.

Question: What are the methods used by UNEP to promote climate action and address the associated complexities?

Response: UNEP promotes climate action and addresses complexities through policy guidance, technical support, international cooperation, research, assessments, awareness-raising, advocacy for sustainable practices, and mobilisation of financial resources.



Session Three

Moderator: Mumo Nzau, Ph.D., National Security Expert and Consultant

Panel Two: Climate Change, Migration, and Security: Impact

Impact of Climate Change on Peace and Security in the Horn of Africa Region by Lt Col Japheth Mwasaru, Head of Research, International Peace Support Training Center (IPSTC)

Introduction

The Climate, Migration, and Security Symposium, presented by Lt Col Japheth Mwasaru, Head of Research at the International Peace Support Training Center (IPSTC), focused on the intersection of climate change, migration, and security in the Horn of Africa (HoA) region. This section provides a summary of the symposium and highlights the key points discussed.

Climate Change in the Horn of Africa (HoA)

Climate change was identified as a threat multiplier that can create new tensions or exacerbate existing insecurities within the HoA region. Its impact worsens the fragility of some HoA states and weakens their coping mechanisms. The inability to meet basic needs due to climate-related factors, such as failed seasonal rains, renders other resources useless for agricultural production. The need for emergency



relief further consumes resources that could otherwise be invested in climate change mitigation strategies.

Drought, exacerbated by climate change, has severe effects on the region. Human vulnerabilities are heightened, leading to increased insecurity. Least Developed Countries and those experiencing conflict are particularly vulnerable to the catastrophic effects of climate change. The worst drought in Somalia in four decades serves as an example of how the least contributors to climate change drivers are often the worst affected.

The 'Conflict Input'

Lt Col Japheth Mwasaru highlighted the 'conflict input' of climate change in the region, with the example of Somalia experiencing the worst drought in over four decades. Unstructured levies and taxes imposed by the al Shabab militia on drought-affected communities further exacerbate their vulnerability. Disruption of traditional livelihood activities erodes resilience, and relief and humanitarian interventions are also hindered. This climate change and conflict mix results in food insecurity, which affects the population's well-

being. Moreover, population displacement is a significant consequence, with over 16.9 million displaced civilians living as refugees or Internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the HoA region, concentrated primarily in Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, and South Sudan.

Migration Policies

Various migration policies have been implemented in the HoA region, including the African Charter on Human and People's Rights (Banjul Charter), IGAD Regional Migration Policy Framework (RMPF), Regional Ministerial Forum on Migration (RMFM), and Migration Policy Framework for Africa (MPFA). However, these policies have had limited positive impact in addressing the migration challenges caused by climate change in the HoA region.

Lt Col Japheth Mwasaru acknowledged the attention given to climate change realities by the United Nations and regional bodies. The UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs launched a Climate Security Mechanism (CSM) toolbox in 2018, and the UN Environmental Policy for Peace Operations has also been implemented.

Summary of Climate Change Impact

Lt Col Japheth Mwasaru highlighted several key impacts of climate change, including climate change-induced migration, resource scarcity-induced conflicts, the strain on border security and management systems, proliferation of small arms and light weapons (SALW), food insecurity, and economic shocks.

Significant intervention measures have been implemented to reduce vulnerability and fragility in the HoA region. Examples include the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) now African Union Transition Mission in Somalia; United Nations

Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS); and other intervention mechanisms. Djibouti hosts foreign military troops, including Chinese and US military bases, and Gulf states have contributed troops and resources, particularly in Eritrea. The Agenda 2063, which outlines priority areas and aspirations for Africa's development, supports investment strategies for security and climate change mitigation. However, the report does not provide an assessment of the effectiveness of these interventions.

Climate Change Mitigation Responses

Efforts to mitigate climate change in the HoA region include increased investments in agricultural growth and food security by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and funding from the European Union (EU) for drought response, food security, and building resilience. The Africa Climate Change Fund (ACCF) has also approved grants to address climate change issues. Specific results of these mitigation responses are not mentioned in the report.

In Kenya, the government has launched an initiative to plant 15 billion trees by 2032 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, restore 5.1 million hectares of depleted landscapes, and support the African Landscape Restoration Initiative. Additionally, the African Development Bank (AfDB) has allocated funds through the Climate Investment Fund to support climate change mitigation efforts.

Recommendations

Lt Col Japheth Mwasaru proposed that there is a need to create consensus on the climate agenda at the global and regional levels, establishing a Climate, Peace, and Security (CPS) agenda, conducting research and assessments for evidence-based responses, and mainstreaming climate change into post-conflict recovery mechanisms.



“ In Kenya, the government has launched an initiative to plant 15 billion trees by 2032 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, restore 5.1 million hectares of depleted landscapes, and support the African Landscape Restoration Initiative ”

Gender Dimensions of Climate-Induced Migration in the Horn of Africa Region by Nancy Omolo, Ph.D., Gender and Climate Change Consultant

Introduction

This section summarizes the presentation on the gender dimensions of climate-induced migration in the Horn of Africa region, delivered by Dr. Nancy Omolo, a Gender and Climate Change Consultant. The presentation shed light on the unique experiences and challenges faced by women and girls in the context of climate-induced migration. It emphasized the need for a comprehensive understanding of the gender dimensions to develop effective strategies and policies.



Climate Change and Gender Effects

Dr. Omolo presented a series of key issues outlined in research papers on the effects of climate change on gender. These included:

1. Climate change increases the workload of women as they have to secure essential resources like water, food, and fuel in resource-limited environments.
2. Women and girls face obstacles in accessing resources such as land, credit, and technology, which hampers their ability to adapt to climate change.
3. Climate-induced migration exposes women and girls to a higher risk of gender-based violence, including sexual exploitation and abuse.
4. Gender inequalities restrict women's involvement and decision-making power in climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.
5. Climate-induced migration disrupts traditional gender roles, necessitating a reevaluation of gender norms and identities.
6. Social norms and roles can reinforce gender inequalities, impeding women's empowerment and their ability to effectively respond to climate-induced migration.
7. Limited access to information and education further marginalizes women and girls, hindering their adaptability and informed decision-making.
8. Climate-induced migration can worsen health issues, including reproductive health challenges, for women and girls who lack adequate healthcare services.
9. Climate-induced migration can break social networks and support systems, negatively affecting the social cohesion and well-being of women and girls.
10. Displacement caused by climate change can lead to the loss of land and cultural ties, further undermining the rights and well-being of women and girls.

Gender Interviews

Dr. Omolo emphasized the importance of incorporating gender perspectives in addressing the gender inequalities linked to climate-induced migration. She highlighted the following key considerations: First, it is vital to recognize and address the existing gender disparities to ensure equitable outcomes in responses to climate-induced migration. Second, there is a need to embrace inclusivity in policies, programmes, and decision-making processes. In ensuring the meaningful participation of women and girls in discussions and interventions related to climate-induced migration, their voices, perspectives, and needs can be properly taken into account, leading to more effective and inclusive outcomes.

Third, there is a need for strategies to mitigate the risks of gender-based violence faced by women and girls during migration. Ensuring their safety and well-being should be a priority, and steps should be taken to address and prevent instances of gender-based violence in the context of climate-induced migration. Fourth, there is a need to improve skills in women and girls in order to enhance their resilience and capacity to adapt to the challenges posed by climate-induced migration. Equipping them with relevant skills can empower them to navigate the impacts of climate change more effectively and build their capacity to thrive in new environments.

Positive Aspects

Dr. Omolo highlighted several positive aspects that can emerge from addressing the gender dimensions of climate-induced migration. These include skill development and knowledge exchange, economic empowerment, social and cultural changes, knowledge transfer and innovation, community resilience, and the empowerment of women. By recognizing and actively addressing these dimensions, societies can harness the full potential of climate-induced migration for the betterment of individuals and communities.

Successful Programmes and Initiatives

Dr. Omolo highlighted several successful programmes and initiatives that focus on addressing the gender dimensions of climate-induced migration. These included:

- a. Programmes to Improve Education Access and Retention: Initiatives that prioritize improving education access and retention for girls in climate-

“ Incorporating gender dimensions into security and defense planning, recognizing the specific risks faced by women and girls during climate-induced migration ”

affected areas, ensuring they receive quality education despite migration challenges.

- b. Gender-Responsive Climate Change Adaptation in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs): Programmes that adopt a gender-responsive approach to climate change adaptation in ASALs, considering the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women and girls.
- c. Informed Policy Making: Promoting evidence-based policy making that integrates gender analysis and considerations into climate-induced migration policies and strategies.
- d. Enhanced Security and Defense Planning: Incorporating gender dimensions into security and defense planning, recognizing the specific risks faced by women and girls during climate-induced migration.
- e. Capacity Building and Training: Providing capacity building and training programmes that enhance the knowledge and skills of women and girls in climate-induced migration contexts.
- f. Encourage Research Collaboration: Inspire research collaboration among academics, practitioners, and policymakers to deepen the understanding of gender dimensions in climate-induced migration and inform evidence-based interventions.

Impact of Climate Change on Kenya's Food Security by Dr. Eliud K. Kireger, OGW, Director General, Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO)

Introduction

Dr. Kireger started by highlighting the situation of the global food system. The global food systems have faced numerous crises in recent years, including the COVID-19 pandemic, the Russian-Ukraine war, and extreme weather events resulting from climate change. These overlapping crises have had severe consequences such as forced migration, loss of employment, climate stress, loss of biodiversity, and economic instability. In Africa, which is home to 1.5 billion people, these shocks and stressors have significantly hindered decades of progress in improving food security and nutrition.

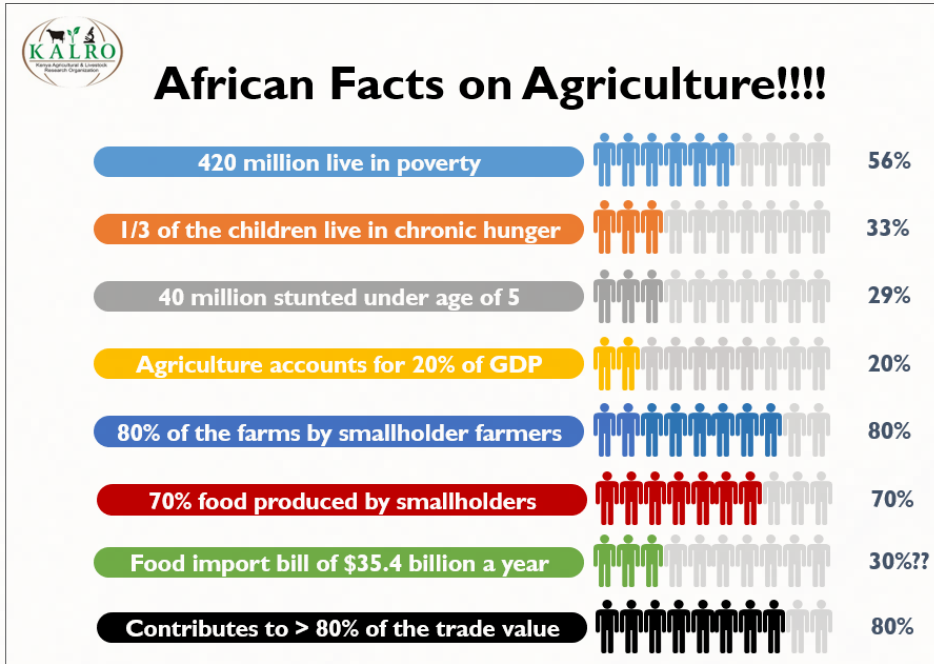


Figure 1 shows the food situation in Africa (Source: KALRO)

Reports on Food Security in Africa

Dr. Kireger addressed the issue of food security in Africa during his discussion, highlighting recent reports on the subject. He emphasized that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG2) clearly outline the ultimate objective for the continent: zero hunger. The primary aim is to guarantee universal access to safe, nutritious, and ample food for all individuals by the year 2030.

Dr. Kireger also shed light on the Africa Agriculture Status Report, which was recently released. This comprehensive report examines the advancements made by the continent in terms of food and nutritional security. It serves as a valuable tool to



navigate the path towards achieving the zero-hunger goal more efficiently, while also adapting to the changing environmental conditions. The report essentially provides a roadmap for Africa, guiding policymakers and stakeholders towards effective strategies and interventions.

Foreseen Risks

However, despite the existence of the aforementioned reports and measures, Dr. Kireger highlighted the potential risks that could arise if the current situation persists. He emphasized that without transformative change, African food systems will hinder human development and remain excessively reliant on food imports. Dr. Kireger also emphasized the importance of adopting sustainable agricultural practices to mitigate the worsening environmental destruction caused by the continent's food systems. Urgent action is, therefore, necessary to proactively address upcoming megatrends, garner political support, mobilize investments, and enhance capacity. These measures will play a crucial role in ensuring the sustainability and resilience of Africa's food systems.

Anticipated Mega Trends

1. African governments must be prepared for the big demographic, economic, environmental, and social trends shaping the continent's food systems. There is a likelihood of rapid population growth, associated land scarcity, and rapidly rising land prices

2. Rapidly growing demand for food, driven by rapidly growing urban areas, rising incomes and purchasing power.
3. Global health crises, economic disruptions, and civil conflicts such as the Russo-Ukraine war.
4. There will be more frequent and intense weather disruptions associated with climate change.

Call to Action

There is an urgent need to transform African and global food systems for greater resilience and sustainability. This transformation necessitates a coordinated effort involving governments, development partners, the private sector, and civil society. It is crucial to implement carefully designed strategies, policy reforms, and investment plans that leverage modern science, technologies, and innovations (STI). Failure is not an option; action must be taken now.

Conclusion

Climate change poses a severe threat to Kenya's food security, with the potential to reverse decades of progress. Urgent and transformative action is needed to address the challenges posed by climate change, improve agricultural productivity, and ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all Kenyans.

“ **Immediate and coordinated efforts must be undertaken to alleviate the suffering of the affected populations and build resilience against future climate-related adversities** ”

By adopting sustainable agricultural practices, investing in science and technology, and strengthening partnerships, Kenya can build resilient food systems that contribute to the achievement of zero hunger and sustainable development.

Comments and Q&A

Question: Shouldn't the Global North and Global South take collective action to address climate change?

Response: Global North and Global South must collaborate to tackle climate change by acknowledging shared responsibility, providing support to the Global South through technology transfer, capacity building, and financial assistance for mitigation and adaptation efforts.

Question: What proactive measures can be taken to address the link between climate and security while ensuring the safeguarding of communities?

Response: Investing in early warning systems for climate-related disasters, promoting sustainable livelihoods and economic opportunities, strengthening social safety nets, enhancing conflict resolution mechanisms, and integrating climate considerations into security and development policies.

Question: How does the rising sea level, particularly in Naivasha and Lake Victoria, impact insecurity and migration patterns?

Response: Rising sea levels in Naivasha and Lake Victoria can disrupt communities, livelihoods, and resources, potentially causing insecurity, migration, and social conflicts.



Session Four

Moderator: **Winnie Rugutt**, Lecturer, University of Nairobi

Panel Three: Climate Change, Migration, and Security: Responses

Reducing the impact of climate change on human security in Africa's hotspots: The Climsec-Africa Strategy by Evans Kituyi, Ph.D. Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance



Introduction

This section provides an overview of the ClimSec-Africa Strategy, presented by Dr. Evans Kituyi, at the Symposium on Climate Change, Migration, and Security. The strategy aims to address the increasing threats of climate change to human security in Africa's hotspots.

Rationale

Dr. Kituyi began his presentation by emphasizing key recommendations derived from notable reports, including the IPCC AR6 WG2 Report, UNEP Adaptation Gap Report, and GCA's State and Trends in Adaptation Report. These reports underscore the substantial risk climate change poses to human security, affecting various aspects such as livelihoods, health, food security, water resources, and infrastructure. The escalation in extreme weather events, sea-level rise, and droughts is intensifying,

potentially resulting in climate-induced migration, displacement, and conflicts. Additionally, the existing adaptation measures are inadequate in addressing the increasing demands for adaptation.

Doing Adaptation Differently

There are several challenges impeding the influence of critical data and evidence on key regional and global debates. Firstly, the lack of availability of such data hinders its potential impact. Secondly, the absence of the right individuals at the negotiating tables limits the ability to make informed decisions. Lastly, the valuable local knowledge from the most vulnerable populations often fails to reach the policymaking tables, further hindering effective decision-making.

Following these gaps, Dr. Kituyi introduced the ClimSec-Africa Programme noting that it is an incarnation of the Horn of Africa Climate Security Working Group, consisting of organisations such as FES, SIPRI, and PACJA. Launched on February 27, 2023, during the 9th Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development in Niamey, Niger, the programme aims to create a Pan African platform for

mobilizing knowledge, partnerships, and action to mitigate climate insecurity on the continent.

The ClimSec-Africa Programme seeks to establish Learning and Innovation Hubs for Climate Security in collaboration with partners. These hubs serve as sites where new and existing knowledge will be mobilized through engagement with key stakeholders. The primary goal is to achieve climate adaptation, peace, and human stability in specific hotspots. Lessons learned from these hubs will be adapted as building blocks for interventions in other regions.

Climate Insecurity Hotspots

Dr. Kituyi identified three climate insecurity hotspots:

- a. Liptako Gourma region: Located in the Sahel, at the borders of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger.
- b. Karamoja Cluster: Encompassing South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, and Ethiopia in the Horn of Africa.
- c. Zambezi River Basin: Spanning across seven countries in Southern Africa.

Example of Proposed Intervention

There is a proposal to establish knowledge translation platforms through the Learning and Innovation Hubs. These platforms will involve vulnerable communities, institutions operating in the hotspots, think tanks, and other relevant actors. Additionally, the report emphasizes the importance of engaging with key actors such as the Pan-African Parliament, UNFCCC processes, the Kampala Convention, the AU Protocol on Free Movement, and the Global Compact on Migration.

Expected Results:

The ClimSec-Africa Strategy outlines several key objectives to be achieved:

1. Implementation of improved knowledge management platforms within each hotspot/Learning and Innovation Hub.
2. Conducting comprehensive vulnerability assessments and identifying suitable adaptation options for each hub, taking into account present conditions and future projections.
3. Identification of knowledge gaps and provision of support to integrate climate considerations into peace processes and sustainable development initiatives.
4. Formulation of policy options and strategies to advocate for climate-related issues at the national, regional, and continental levels.

Conclusion

The ClimSec-Africa Strategy addresses the urgent need to reduce the impact of climate change on human security in Africa's hotspots. By mobilizing knowledge, strengthening capacities, and promoting engagement, the strategy aims to promote resilience, peace, and stability in vulnerable communities. Through the establishment of Learning and Innovation Hubs, the strategy will generate valuable insights and interventions that can be replicated in other regions. It is a call for less talking and more action in the face of the climate crisis.



“ The escalation in extreme weather events, sea-level rise, and droughts is intensifying, potentially resulting in climate-induced migration, displacement, and conflicts ”



The Law and Climate Migration in the Horn of Africa Region by Elizabeth Gitaru, Environmental and Conservation Law Attorney

Introduction

Elizabeth Gitaru is a lawyer and advocate of the High Court of Kenya. She also works at OGO – LAW (The Green Brief), a women-led law firm specializing in environmental and sustainability law. Gitaru emphasized the belief that law and policy can be instrumental in building an environmentally conscious society that promotes sustainability and secures community livelihoods.



Climate Migration Statistics

Gitaru highlighted the pressing issue of climate-induced migration in the Horn of Africa region. By the end of 2021, the region had already hosted 4.9 million refugees and asylum seekers. Moreover, the World Bank predicts that the number of climate migrants in Sub-Saharan Africa could reach up to 85.7 million by 2050, emphasizing the urgency to address this issue. During her presentation, Gitaru identified several key issues related to climate-induced migration in the region:

- a. Seven out of the ten most at-risk countries globally are in Africa, with five of them located in the Horn of Africa.
- b. Natural resource wars as a result of climate change, scarcity of natural resources, and conflicts over land. The competition for limited resources can lead to disputes and exacerbate the challenges faced by communities in the region.
- c. Climate-induced migration is not merely an environmental concern but also a human rights issue. The right to life, access to water, and the right to health cannot be divorced from the conversation.
- d. There is a need to establish legal frameworks to recognize and protect climate migrants, as well as clear definitions and legal status for climate refugees to ensure their rights and access to protection.

Gitaru referred to the 2015 case involving the island nation of Kiribati as an example of the legal implications of climate-induced migration. Kiribati sought to argue that the impacts of climate change would render its territory uninhabitable, leading to the displacement of its population. The case highlights the need for legal frameworks to address the plight of climate refugees.

Regional Cooperation and Policy Regulatory

Gitaru emphasized the need for regional cooperation and policy regulations to address climate-induced migration effectively. She highlighted key initiatives such as:

- a. The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration: This intergovernmental agreement, developed under the United Nations auspices, covers all dimensions of international migration and upholds the principles of non-regression and non-discrimination based on international human rights law.

“ **By recognizing the vulnerabilities, human rights implications, and legal complexities associated with climate-induced migration, stakeholders can work towards developing comprehensive frameworks that protect the rights and well-being of climate migrants** ”

- b. African Union’s Migration Policy Framework for Africa (2018): This framework is a guiding document for member states to develop comprehensive migration policies that consider the impact of climate change.
- c. Kampala Ministerial Declaration on Migration, Climate Change and Environment (2022): This declaration as an important regional effort to address the intersection of migration, climate change, and the environment.

- d. IGAD Protocol on Free Movement of Persons (2020): The adoption of this protocol by IGAD states as the first regional initiative specifically addressing people fleeing disasters and climate change. It aims to ensure the protection and assistance of individuals affected by climate-induced migration.

Conclusion

Elizabeth Gitaru’s presentation shed light on the urgent need for sustainable policy and legislative reforms to address climate-induced migration in the Horn of Africa region. By recognizing the vulnerabilities, human rights implications, and legal complexities associated with climate-induced migration, stakeholders can work towards developing comprehensive frameworks that protect the rights and well-being of climate migrants. Regional cooperation and adherence to international standards are crucial for effective and inclusive responses to this growing challenge.



Building Climate Resilience of Rural Communities: A Case Study of Women Empowerment in Djibouti by Oumalkhaire Yacin Abdi, Environmental Specialist

Introduction

This section presents a case study on the building of climate resilience in rural communities through women’s empowerment in Djibouti by Oumalkhaire Yacin Abdi, Environmental Specialist. Djibouti faces significant climate challenges, including extreme water scarcity, a desert climate, and minimal rainfall. These challenges have



intensified social and environmental risks, particularly affecting rural livelihoods and food security. Women’s empowerment plays a pivotal role in building climate resilience, ensuring economic growth, and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Empowering women in Djibouti leads to improved agricultural productivity, poverty reduction, and enhanced overall resilience within rural communities, contributing to sustainable development and promoting gender equity.

Climate Challenges in Djibouti

Djibouti experiences high spatial variability in rainfall, primarily influenced by altitudinal variation within the country. The highest rainfalls (150 mm to



“ Women’s empowerment and gender equality result in environmentally conscious decision-making at all levels, benefiting households, communities, and nations ”

250 mm) are found along a north-south discontinuous ridge, while the northeastern coastal regions receive less than 100 mm of rainfall annually. Infrequent rainfall and extreme wet and dry events have become more frequent since 2003, with twelve extreme drought events identified between 2003 and 2021. Djibouti’s average annual rainfall of only 150 mm makes it extremely water-scarce, dry, and vulnerable to climatic shocks such as droughts and floods.

Importance of Women’s Empowerment in Climate Resilience

Women’s empowerment and gender equality result in environmentally conscious decision-making at all levels, benefiting households, communities, and nations. When women have equal access to resources, agricultural yields can increase by 20 to 30%, reducing world hunger by 12 per cent to 17 per cent. Women are agents of change, early adopters of new agricultural techniques, first responders in crises, green energy entrepreneurs, and decision-makers at home.

Initiatives for Women’s Empowerment in Djibouti

Several initiatives in Djibouti have focused on women’s empowerment and building their resilience to climate change. Capacity-building programmes led by the Ministry of Women and Family Affairs, in collaboration with non-governmental organisations (NGOs), civil society organisations (CSOs), and youth-led organisations, have empowered vulnerable women and girls in rural areas through training and income-generating activities. Women’s cooperatives, training programmes, and support for agro-pastoral production have benefited approximately 2000 women from 20 associations in Djibouti since 2020. Access to financial resources and microcredit schemes has also played a vital role in improving women’s empowerment and their social, economic, and political conditions.

Female Leadership and Community-based Development

Djibouti has made significant progress in female leadership and community-based development. The country’s new legislature exhibits a more inclusive representation of the population, with the recent elections in February 2023 resulting in a 26% increase in women’s representation compared to the previous legislature. Amendments to the electoral law now require at least 25% of parliamentary seats to be held by women. These changes have strengthened gender and social caucuses and prioritized community-led engagement, facilitating women’s empowerment and their active participation in decision-making processes.

Case Studies

a) Case Study 1: Building Climate-Resilient Agricultural Practices

This case study highlights the role of women as drivers of climate resilience and economic recovery in Djibouti’s agricultural sector. Key outcomes include training female farmers on appropriate farming practices and techniques, distributing materials and seeds, amplifying women’s voices in stakeholder consultations, and achieving a 20% to 35% increase in crop yields. Collaboration between UN agencies, local partners, government agencies, and regional authorities has positively impacted the lives and livelihoods of over 300 women farmers in Ali Sabieh, Dikhil, and Arta regions.

b) Case Study 2: Water Resource Management and Conservation

This case study focuses on effective water resource management and conservation to build resilience against climatic shocks. Djibouti’s water scarcity is addressed

through the PRODERMO project, which has constructed and overhauled 250 water points, providing access to drinking water for 20,000 rural households. The project emphasizes the promotion of sustainable agro-pastoral livelihoods and has achieved positive results in improving the resilience of vulnerable populations.

Impact and Lessons Learned

The initiatives promoting women's empowerment in Djibouti have enhanced the resilience and adaptive capacity of women, leading to socioeconomic benefits for rural communities. Women trained in climate-resilient farming practices and water resource management have acquired technical, organisational, and managerial skills, positively impacting their livelihoods. Increased access to income-generating activities and drinking water has improved living standards in rural areas. Lessons learned include the importance of a participatory and community-based approach, training and capacity building programmes, and integrating gender-responsive approaches into policy frameworks.

Challenges and Recommendations

Challenges in women's empowerment in Djibouti include gender-based barriers and societal norms that hinder progress towards equity. Recommendations to address these challenges include strengthening institutions and policies for gender equity, implementing inclusive measures and programmes, and promoting women's access to resources and decision-making. Building a gender-responsive society requires a collective effort from governments, NGOs, and local communities. The case study on women's empowerment in Djibouti highlights the enhanced resilience and adaptive capacity of women, socioeconomic benefits for rural communities, and implications for sustainable development and gender equality.

Conclusion

The case study of women's empowerment in Djibouti demonstrates the positive impact of empowering women in building climate resilience and achieving sustainable



Women trained in climate-resilient farming practices and water resource management have acquired technical, organisational, and managerial skills, positively impacting their livelihoods



development. By addressing gender-specific challenges in climate change adaptation, Djibouti can create more resilient rural communities and promote gender equity. Continued efforts, collaboration among stakeholders, and inclusive policies and programmes are essential for ensuring long-term climate resilience and gender equality in Djibouti.

Comments and Q&A

Question: What are the biggest challenges African states face in accessing climate funds, and how can these challenges be addressed? Some key areas include accountability mechanisms, the problematic situation in the Sahel region (including terrorism and resilience), capacity building for climate adaptation, and implementing peer review mechanisms.

Response: Limited capacity for project development and implementation, lack of accountability mechanisms, bureaucratic hurdles, and limited access to international financial resources. These challenges can be addressed through capacity-building initiatives, enhancing transparency and accountability, simplifying funding application processes, and fostering regional cooperation to share best practices.

Question: How are you incorporating the appreciation of the impact of climate change on livestock, especially wildlife, into your discussions?

Response: It is crucial to recognize and incorporate the vulnerabilities and risks faced by these populations. This can be done by promoting sustainable land management practices, protecting biodiversity, enhancing wildlife conservation efforts, and supporting communities dependent on livestock through climate resilience and adaptation measures.

Session Five

Moderator: **Faith Kiboro**, Development Economist

Panel Four: Climate Change, Migration, and Security: Promoting Human Security and Regional Stability

Responses and Strategies by the African Union (AU) by Mr. Harsen Nyambe, Director, Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy Directorate, African Union Commission

Introduction

This presentation was made by Mr. Harsen Nyambe, Director, Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy Directorate, African Union Commission. This section presents the responses and strategies by the African Union in addressing the challenges of climate change, migration, and security, particularly in the Horn of Africa. Agenda 2063, the vision of the African Union, aims to create an integrated, prosperous, and peaceful Africa driven by its own citizens. Goal 7 of Agenda 2063 focuses on developing environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities.

Climate Migration and Climate Security

The IPCC AR6 report (March 20, 2023) identifies Africa as one of the most vulnerable regions to climate change. It projects more frequent and intense heatwaves,

droughts, floods, storms, and wildfires in Africa under all emission scenarios. These extreme events have significant implications for human health, food security, water availability, migration, and ecosystem services. The report warns that certain regions in Africa may become uninhabitable or lose their agricultural potential by the end of the century under high-emission scenarios. The dependence of African livelihoods on climate-sensitive variables makes development in Africa more challenging and increases the likelihood of conflicts without urgent action on climate change. The resulting impacts include food and human insecurity, migration, and increased hunger and poverty.

Regional Situation in the Horn of Africa

The Horn of Africa heavily depends on climate-sensitive variables such as rainfall, temperature, and sea level rise for its livelihood. The region has experienced drought situations over the past four decades, with the worst recorded in 2022. This prolonged drought has resulted in large-scale loss of food and income, leading to food insecurity for 21 million people across the region. Moreover,



climate-induced forced migration has exacerbated the fragile security situation, with the Horn of Africa hosting the highest volume of cross-border movement in the world. In 2020 alone, the region hosted 6.5 million Internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 3.5 million refugees and asylum seekers.

AU/Regional Responses

The African Union has developed various responses and strategies to address the challenges of climate change, migration, and security in the region. These include:

- a. African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032): The strategy contains recommendations for addressing climate change and building resilience in Africa.
- b. The Africa Climate Mobility Initiative (ACMI): This initiative is a collaboration between the African Union Commission, UNDP, UNFCCC, IOM, and the World Bank. It aims to address the nexus between climate change, mobility, and development in Africa.
- c. AU Peace and Security Council: The AU regularly holds sessions on climate change and conflict, adopting key resolutions to address these issues.
- d. Regional studies in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM): The AU conducts studies on climate change, migration, and security in specific regions, such as East Africa and Southern Africa.
- e. African Union Green Recovery Action Plan: This plan focuses on pillars such as climate finance, renewable energy, nature-based solutions, resilient agriculture, and resilient cities.
- f. African Union Multi-Hazard Early Warning System and Early Action: The AU has established this system to enhance early warning and response mechanisms to climate-related hazards.
- g. Urban Resilience Programme: The AU, in collaboration with UNDP and UN Habitat, has developed this programme to enhance urban resilience to climate change impacts.
- h. Capacity building programmes: The AU conducts capacity building programmes to help member states access climate finance and implement climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.

- i. Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI): The AU is actively involved in the GGWI, which aims to combat climate change, land degradation, and desertification in the Sahel region. The initiative has achieved significant results, including climate-smart agriculture benefiting smallholder farmers, job creation, and conservation efforts.

Recommendations

Based on the AU's efforts and experiences, the following recommendations are proposed:

1. Increase investments in climate adaptation, particularly in water security for human, irrigation, and livestock needs.
2. Facilitate the free movement of people and goods across international borders to address the challenges of migration.
3. Conduct awareness and education campaigns to change perceptions and attitudes towards migration.
4. Implement existing frameworks and strategies on climate change, migration, and security.
5. Promote green investments to create job opportunities, especially for the youth.
6. Diversify livelihoods away from climate-sensitive sectors to enhance resilience and reduce vulnerability.

Conclusion

The African Union recognizes the urgent need to address the complex challenges of climate change, migration, and security in the Horn of Africa and beyond. Through its various responses and strategies, the AU is committed to building resilient economies and communities, enhancing early warning systems, promoting sustainable development, and fostering regional cooperation. The proposed recommendations aim to further strengthen the AU's efforts and contribute to a sustainable and prosperous Africa.

“ The dependence of African livelihoods on climate-sensitive variables makes development in Africa more challenging and increases the likelihood of conflicts without urgent action on climate change ”



Responses and Strategies by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) by Misiani Herbert, Climate Scientist, Director, IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is committed to transforming the IGAD region into an upper middle-income economy and an industrialized region. This transformation aims to establish the region as a continental beacon of regional peace, stability, and security. To achieve this vision, IGAD focuses on various areas, including regional peace and security, macroeconomic stability, equitable distribution of resources, infrastructure development, energy, science, technology, and innovation (STI), climate change mitigation, and efficient utilization of environment and natural resources.

IGAD's responses and strategies on climate change, migration, and security reflect its commitment to addressing the challenges in the region. By focusing on food security, land governance, climate change adaptation, and peace and security coordination, IGAD aims to transform the region and ensure its sustainable development. The efforts made by IGAD demonstrate a proactive approach towards mitigating the impacts of climate change and promoting peace and stability in the IGAD region.



Responses and Strategies by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) by Elizabeth Carabine, Ph.D., Climate Security Advisor, Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa (OSE-Horn of Africa)

Introduction

The following section outlines the responses and strategies implemented by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) in addressing climate change, migration, and security issues delivered by Dr. Elizabeth Carabine, the Climate Security Advisor in the Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa (OSE-Horn of Africa), during a symposium on climate change, migration, and security.

Climate Security Mechanism

The UNEP has established a Climate Security Mechanism (CSM) to address the intersection of climate change, migration, and security. It is important to note that approximately 70% of the countries most vulnerable to climate change also rank among the most fragile. Out of the 15 most climate vulnerable countries, eight host a UN field mission, and 12 have a humanitarian response plan.

Progress to Date

1. *Support to Analysis and Action:* The UNEP has launched 13 initiatives aimed at addressing the linkages between climate change, migration, and security in vulnerable countries and regions. Additionally, the organisation has deployed five advisors in UN field missions and three experts in regional

organisations to provide support and guidance. Furthermore, over 18 UN Country Teams and/or missions have been supported in integrating climate-related security risks into their analysis and strategic planning processes.

2. *Advocacy, Partnerships, and Convening:* The UNEP has established a Community of Practice consisting of more than 400 colleagues from over 35 UN entities. This community facilitates collaboration and knowledge sharing. An online platform has been created to share information, including over 450 events and 100+ resource documents and



tools. The UNEP has also fostered engagement and collaboration across the UN system, with Member States, regional organisations, and civil society.

3. *Knowledge Co-Generation and Management:* The UNEP has developed a Toolbox on Climate-Peace-Security (CPS) risk analysis. Various knowledge pieces have been produced, focusing on climate finance for peace, gender and climate in peace and security, and climate change and mediation. Additionally, the UNEP has organized the first-ever integrated learning dialogue among UN CPS practitioners.

Global Work streams

1. *Capacity Building:* The UNEP has trained 850 UN and non-UN analysts on integrated risk analysis, contributing to improved understanding and action on climate change, migration, and security. Several training initiatives have been developed and delivered, including a scenario game, an academic course, tailored training for UN field missions, and an open online course with a large enrollment.
2. *Regional Climate Security Coordination Mechanism for the Horn of Africa:* Under the leadership of Dr. Elizabeth Carabine and the UN Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, a technical consultation was held in Nairobi, Kenya. The consultation aimed to establish a shared understanding of climate, peace, and security in the region. It identified climate-induced mobility, historical grievances and cultural practices, threats to food and water security, and governance and fragility as key issues. The IGAD-UN OSE Horn Technical Consultation recommended the establishment of a Climate Security Coordination Mechanism to address climate-related peace and security risks in the Horn of Africa.

3. *Towards a Common Regional Position:* Efforts have been made to develop a common regional position on climate change, migration, and security. The IGAD region has witnessed an alarming increase in extreme climatic events, exacerbating threats to peace and security. A regional response is necessary to tackle these challenges effectively.
4. *Improving Coordination on Climate, Peace, and Security:* To enhance coordination, the IGAD Secretariat has been directed to establish a Climate Security Coordination Mechanism in collaboration with the UN OSE Horn of Africa and the Climate Security Mechanism of the UN.
5. *Increasing Access to Finance and Capacity Building:* The report highlights the need to mobilize adequate financial resources to address climate-related peace and security risks. The total cost of implementing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in the Horn of Africa is estimated to be USD 500 billion for the period 2020-2030. However, less than USD 1 billion was received in 2021. Access to finance and capacity building must be increased to meet the region's needs effectively.

“ It is important to note that approximately 70% of the countries most vulnerable to climate change also rank among the most fragile ”

Conclusion

The UNEP, through its Climate Security Mechanism, has taken significant steps to address climate change, migration, and security. Various initiatives, partnerships, and training programmes have been implemented to build capacity, generate knowledge, and foster collaboration. The establishment of a regional Climate Security Coordination

Mechanism for the Horn of Africa is a crucial step toward addressing climate-related peace and security risks in the region. However, the report emphasizes the need for increased access to finance and capacity building to effectively implement climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.

Responses and Strategies by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations by Hamisi Williams, Asst. FAO Representative for Programmes read by Dr. Thecla Mutia

Introduction

The Symposium on Climate Change, Migration, and Security serves as a platform to discuss the complex interactions between these three interconnected global challenges. As the Assistant FAO Representative for Programmes, I would like to present an overview of the responses and strategies implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in addressing the impacts of climate change on food security, migration patterns, and regional security.

a) Understanding the Climate Change-Food Security Nexus

Climate change poses significant threats to global food security, affecting agricultural productivity, livelihoods, and food access. FAO recognizes the urgent need for comprehensive responses that integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation measures into agricultural systems. This approach aims to enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities and ensure sustainable food production in a changing climate.

b) Enhancing Adaptive Capacity and Resilience

FAO promotes climate-smart agriculture, which combines sustainable agricultural practices, climate adaptation strategies, and the efficient use of natural resources. This approach helps farmers adapt to changing climatic conditions while simultaneously contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. FAO supports the adoption of climate-resilient practices, such as agroforestry, conservation agriculture, and improved water management techniques, to build the adaptive capacity of smallholder farmers.

c) Strengthening Early Warning Systems and Preparedness

FAO plays a vital role in strengthening early warning systems for climate-related disasters, such as droughts, floods, and storms, which often lead to increased migration. By providing timely and accurate information on potential threats, FAO helps vulnerable communities prepare and implement appropriate response measures. This includes the development of early



warning tools, contingency planning, and the establishment of emergency food reserves.

d) *Promoting Sustainable Land and Water Management*

FAO recognizes the critical importance of sustainable land and water management in mitigating climate change impacts and ensuring food security. Through various initiatives, FAO supports the implementation of sustainable land practices, such as land restoration, soil conservation, and integrated water resource management. These measures help to conserve natural resources, enhance agricultural productivity, and reduce land degradation, which can contribute to conflicts and forced migration.

e) *Facilitating Rural Development and Economic Opportunities*

To address the root causes of migration, FAO focuses on promoting rural development and creating economic opportunities in vulnerable regions. By investing in sustainable agriculture, rural infrastructure, and value chain development, FAO aims to improve livelihoods and reduce the need for migration due to environmental and economic stressors. FAO also supports income diversification, entrepreneurship, and vocational training programmes to empower rural communities and enhance their resilience.

f) *Strengthening Partnerships and International Cooperation*

FAO recognizes that addressing the complex challenges of climate change, migration, and security requires a collaborative and multi-stakeholder approach. FAO actively engages with governments, civil society organisations, research institutions, and other UN agencies to foster partnerships, exchange knowledge, and mobilize resources. Through these collaborations, FAO enhances the effectiveness of its interventions and contributes to global efforts in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Conclusion

The responses and strategies implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations reflect a comprehensive approach to address the interconnected challenges of climate change, migration, and security. By

integrating climate-smart practices, strengthening early warning systems, promoting sustainable land and water management, facilitating rural development, and fostering partnerships, FAO strives to enhance food security, build resilience, and reduce the drivers of migration. These efforts contribute to a more sustainable and secure future for all.

Comments and Q&A Session

Question: How can we develop policies and secure funding to support climate action and How are organisations coordinating efforts to address the intersection of climate change and tropical diseases or emerging health issues?

Response: Organisations can coordinate efforts to address the intersection of climate change and tropical diseases or emerging health issues through collaborative initiatives. This includes conducting research on climate-related health impacts, developing early warning systems for disease outbreaks, strengthening healthcare infrastructure, promoting community awareness and resilience, and supporting international partnerships to improve preparedness and response.

Question: In South Sudan, there has been a neglect of farmers and a focus on pastoralist communities and wildlife in past agreements. Are there any programmes currently addressing this issue and working towards the coexistence of pastoralists and farmers?

Answer: Programmes promoting coexistence between pastoralists and farmers in South Sudan play a crucial role in sustainable development by fostering dialogue, conflict resolution, and inclusive policies that respect the rights and interests of both groups, while addressing agricultural practices, livestock management, resource access, and environmental and climate concerns.

Comment: The Sahel region faces significant challenges related to climate change, security, and migration. It experiences increasing desertification, droughts, and food insecurity, leading to conflicts over resources. These environmental and security challenges contribute to population displacement, exacerbating the migration crisis.

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Closing Remarks

Dr. Hassan Khannenje, in his closing remarks at the symposium on climate change, migration, and security, expressed gratitude to all participants and highlighted the interconnectedness of these issues. He emphasized how environmental challenges can worsen social, economic, and political vulnerabilities, leading to forced displacement and potential security threats. Dr. Khannenje drew inspiration from Martin Luther King Jr.'s words about the inescapable network of mutuality and stressed the need for collective action and collaboration to address the challenges at hand. He called for greater cooperation among nations, strengthened international frameworks, and comprehensive strategies encompassing climate resilience, sustainable development, and inclusive policies.

Dr. Khannenje emphasized the importance of protecting vulnerable populations, promoting equitable resource access, and ensuring that no one is left behind in the pursuit of a sustainable and secure future. He encouraged participants to carry the knowledge gained from the symposium into their respective spheres of influence, acting as catalysts for change and advocating for policy reforms and sustainable practices. Dr. Khannenje expressed confidence that by embracing unity and working together, significant progress can be made in addressing the challenges of climate change, migration, and security. He finished by thanking participants for their active participation and looked forward to continued collaboration in the pursuit of a sustainable future.



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Recommendations

a) Recommendations for the Government of Kenya:

- Strengthen national policies: Develop and implement comprehensive policies that integrate climate change, migration, and security issues. These policies should address the drivers of migration, enhance adaptation capacity, and ensure food security in the face of climate change.
- Enhance disaster preparedness: Invest in early warning systems, emergency response mechanisms, and infrastructure resilience to mitigate the impacts of climate-related disasters. This will help protect vulnerable populations and reduce the need for forced displacement.
- Support sustainable agriculture: Promote sustainable agricultural practices, including climate-smart techniques and resilient crop varieties, to ensure food security and reduce the dependency on environmentally unsustainable practices.
- Foster regional cooperation: Collaborate with other countries in the IGAD region to develop joint strategies for addressing climate change, migration, and security challenges. This can include information sharing, resource mobilisation, and joint initiatives to build resilience and promote regional stability.
- Strengthen capacity-building efforts: Invest in training programmes and knowledge-sharing platforms to build the capacity of government officials, local communities, and civil society organisations in understanding and responding to the complex interconnections between climate change, migration, and security.

b) Recommendations for the United Nations

- Coordinate international efforts: Facilitate coordination and collaboration among member states, regional organisations, and relevant agencies to develop a comprehensive global response to climate change, migration, and security challenges. This can be achieved through regular dialogues, knowledge sharing, and joint initiatives.
- Support capacity-building initiatives: Provide technical and financial assistance to countries, particularly in the IGAD region, to enhance their capacity in addressing climate change impacts, managing migration flows, and ensuring the security of affected populations. This can include funding for adaptation projects, knowledge transfer, and the establishment of regional training centers.





- Strengthen legal frameworks: Advocate for the development and implementation of international legal frameworks that address the rights and protection of climate-induced migrants, promote their access to basic services, and ensure their human security. This can include working towards the adoption of a legally binding global agreement on climate-induced migration.
- Promote data collection and research: Encourage the collection of accurate and comprehensive data on climate change, migration, and security to better understand the dynamics and develop evidence-based policies and strategies. Support research initiatives that explore the socio-economic, political, and environmental implications of climate-related migration.

c) Recommendations for the African Union

- Enhance regional cooperation: Foster collaboration among African Union member states to develop a unified approach in addressing climate change, migration, and security challenges. This can include the establishment of regional platforms, joint initiatives, and resource-sharing mechanisms.
- Advocate for policy integration: Encourage member states to integrate climate change, migration, and security concerns into national policies and development plans. Promote the adoption of regional frameworks that address the interconnections between these issues and provide guidance for coordinated action.
- Strengthen early warning systems: Invest in the development and enhancement of regional early warning systems to anticipate and respond to climate-related disasters, which can lead to forced displacement and security threats. Ensure that these systems are accessible to all member states and incorporate local knowledge and expertise.
- Promote sustainable development: Advocate for sustainable development practices that prioritize climate resilience, inclusive growth, and equitable resource distribution. Support initiatives that promote renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and the conservation of natural resources.

d) Recommendations for IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority on Development)

- Foster regional collaboration: Strengthen cooperation among IGAD member states to address the challenges of climate change, migration, and security in the Horn of Africa. Facilitate regular exchanges, joint initiatives, and the sharing of best practices to build resilience and promote regional stability.
- Develop climate adaptation strategies: Support the development and implementation of comprehensive climate adaptation strategies.









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