

THE ASIA-PACIFIC CONTEXT

IOM'S APPROACH

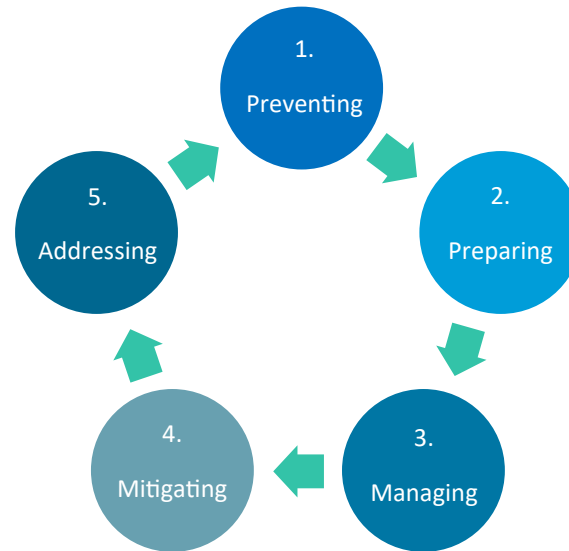


The Asia-Pacific region has been identified as the world's most climate vulnerable region. In 2016, 20 million people or 82.8 percent of the global total of displaced populations due to natural disasters were recorded in Asia-Pacific region (IDMC, 2017). The World Bank has identified Bangladesh, India, the Maldives, Myanmar and Pakistan as vulnerable to climate threats such as drought, floods, rising sea levels and storms. In Southeast Asia, the countries of the Mekong Delta along with Indonesia and the Philippines, are at high risk of coastal erosion, flooding and cyclones. Major urban areas of South East and South Asia and low-lying small islands and atolls of the Pacific, notably Kiribati and Tuvalu are also likely to be threatened by a rise in sea levels. Desertification and glacial retreat also affects countries in Central, West and South Asia.



IOM's central objectives in managing environmental migration:

- To prevent forced migration resulting from environmental factors to the extent possible;
- To provide assistance and protection to affected populations where forced migration does occur, and to seek durable solutions to their situation;
- To facilitate migration as a climate change adaptation strategy.



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MIGRATION, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE: IOM ACTIVITIES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



*This is not an exhaustive list; for visual representative only.

SELECTED EXAMPLES OF IOM ACTIVITIES IN ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report (2014) projects that an increased intensity and frequency of sudden and slow onset events, along with a loss in agricultural productivity will impact migration flows. Recent disasters have led to widespread displacement, while other climatic changes drive population movements, including from rural to urban areas.

To deal with the challenges of disaster displacement and environmental migration, IOM provides assistance and protection to populations affected by disasters and supports communities through operational responses on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. IOM works to enhance the evidence base, data collection, policy development, capacity building and advocacy on migration, environment and climate change.

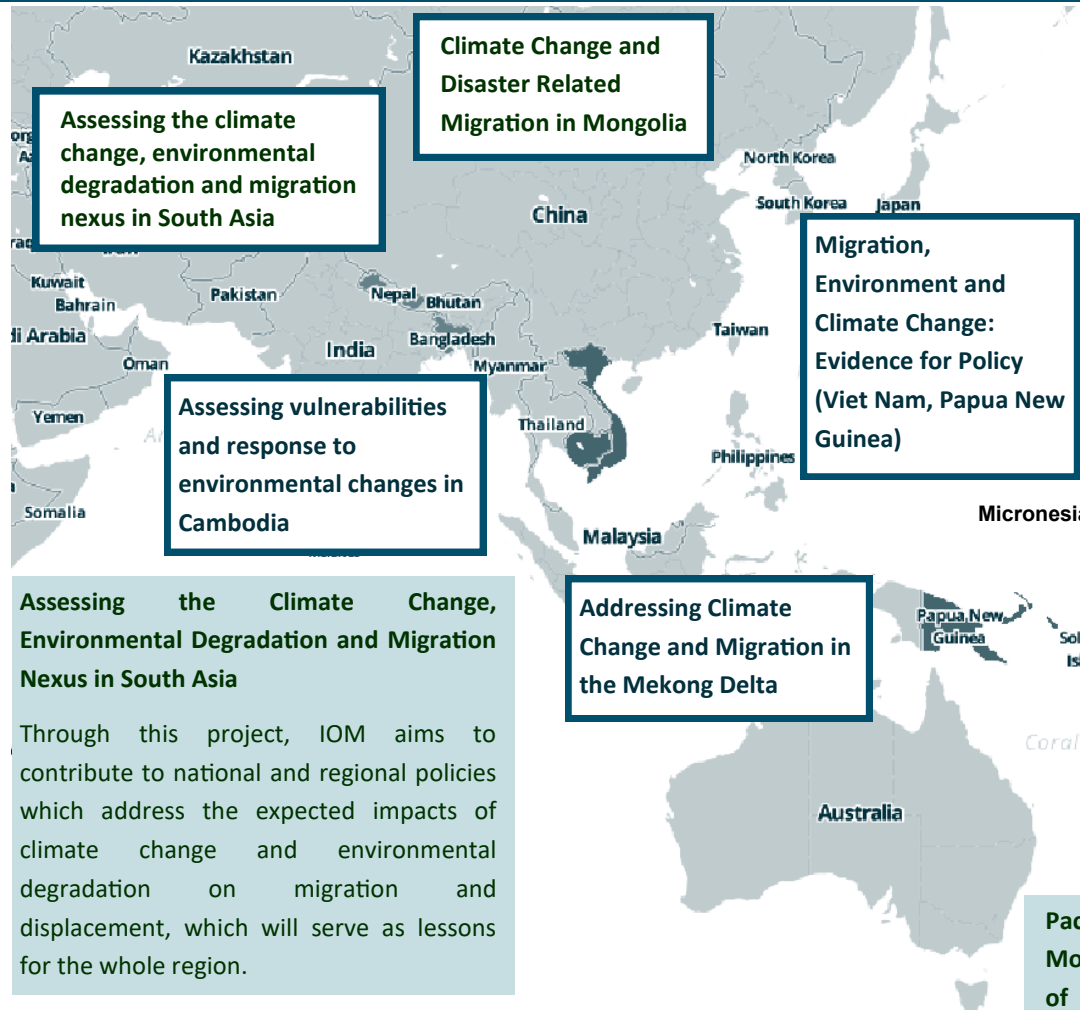
IOM PROJECTS

Climate Change and Disaster Related Migration in Mongolia

This project aims to support the government of Mongolia and other actors to plan proactively and in a coordinated manner for future disaster and climate change forced migration. The project will also support vulnerable migrants in the Ger districts of Ulaanbaatar to make better informed decisions about safe migration, registration and access to services.

Assessing Vulnerabilities and Responses to Environmental Changes in Cambodia

The project documented the livelihood dynamics, migration patterns and drivers observed among Cambodia's rural communities and their responses to environmental changes.



Assessing the Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration Nexus in South Asia

Through this project, IOM aims to contribute to national and regional policies which address the expected impacts of climate change and environmental degradation on migration and displacement, which will serve as lessons for the whole region.

Strengthening Corporate Responsibility to Eliminate Exploitation, Slavery and Trafficking in Supply Chains (CREST) / Bangladesh, India, and Myanmar

This project seeks to promote and protect the rights of vulnerable migrant workers and increase the understanding of the labour migration, environment, and climate change nexus in Asian supply chains.

Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Evidence for Policy (MECLEP)

The project aimed to contribute to the global knowledge base on the relationship between migration and environmental change. More specifically, it aimed to formulate policy options on how migration, including planned relocation, can serve as an adaptation strategy to climate change.

Community-Based Climate Change Adaptation in Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands

Development of a National Framework for Durable Solutions in Vanuatu

IOM provided technical support for the development of the National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement. This policy aims to mainstream displacement related domains, such as land use, health, education, into national development planning, to better manage the disaster-affected populations in Vanuatu.

Pacific Adaptation through Labour Mobility in the Low-lying Atoll States of Kiribati, Marshall Islands, and Tuvalu (PALM)

This project will enhance data collection relating to labour migration and labour markets in three Pacific countries, to support the development of labour market information system in Kiribati and Tuvalu, as well as the action plan for developing a National Labour Mobility Policy in Marshall Islands.