

GLOSSARY

Climate migration: The movement of a person or groups of persons who, predominantly for reasons of sudden or progressive change in the environment due to climate change, are obliged to leave their habitual place of residence, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, within a State or across an international border. This is a working definition of IOM with an analytic and advocacy purpose that does not have any specific legal value. Climate migration is a subcategory of environmental migration; it defines a singular type of environmental migration, where the change in the environment is due to climate change impacts. Migration in this context can be associated with greater vulnerability of affected people, particularly if it is forced. Yet, migration can also be a form of adaptation to environmental stressors, helping to build the resilience of affected individuals and communities (Source: IOM, 2016).

Circular migration: A form of migration in which people repeatedly move back and forth between two or more countries (IOM 2019c).

Cross-border displacement: The movements of persons who have been forced or obliged to leave their homes or places of habitual residence and move across international borders (IOM 2019c).

Diaspora: Migrants or descendants of migrants whose identity and sense of belonging, either real or symbolic, have been shaped by their migration experience and background. They maintain links with their homelands, and to each other, based on a shared sense of history, identity, or mutual experiences in the destination country (IOM 2019c).

Displacement: The movement of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-induced disasters (Source: Adapted from Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, annexed to United Nations 1998, para. 2 of the introduction). Note: Unlike the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, the above definition is meant to cover both internal and cross-border displacement.

Disaster displacement: The movement of persons who have been forced or obliged to leave their homes or places of habitual residence as a result of a disaster or in order to avoid the impact of an immediate and foreseeable natural hazard (Source: Adapted from Nansen Initiative, 2015:16). Disaster displacement may take the form of spontaneous flight, an evacuation ordered or enforced by authorities or an involuntary planned relocation process. Such displacement can occur within a country (internal displacement) or across international borders (cross-border disaster displacement) (ibid.).

Environmental Migration is the movement of persons or groups of persons who, predominantly for reasons of sudden or progressive changes in the environment that adversely affect their lives or living conditions, are forced to leave their places of habitual residence, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, and who move within or outside their country of origin or habitual residence.

Forced migration: A migratory movement which, although the drivers can be diverse, involves force, compulsion or coercion. Note: While not an international legal concept, this term has been used to describe the movements of refugees, displaced persons (including those displaced by disasters or development projects) and, in some instances, victims of trafficking. At the international level, the use of this term is debated because of the widespread recognition that a continuum of agency exists rather than a voluntary/forced dichotomy and that it might undermine the existing legal international protection regime.

Human mobility: A generic term covering all the different forms of movements of persons. In the context of environmental and climate change, the term human mobility reflects a wider range of movements of persons than the term migration, including for example migration, displacement and planned relocation (as posited by the Cancun Adaptation Framework, UNFCCC 2010). The international organizations that are members of the Advisory Group on Climate Change and Human Mobility are using the term human mobility to refer to the broad range of types of movements that can take place in the context of climate change. (Source: UNHCR, 2015). Note: In other contexts, the term human mobility might also include commuting, tourism or emphasize inner-urban movements.

Human mobility refers to three forms of human mobility as used in Paragraph 14(f) of the UNFCCC Cancun Climate Change Adaptation Framework, namely

- *Displacement* which is understood as forced movement of persons;
- *Migration* which is understood as the primarily voluntary movement of persons);
- *Planned relocation* which is understood as planned process of settling persons or groups of persons to a new location.

Internally displaced persons: Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-induced disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border (Source: Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, annexed to United Nations, 1998:6).

Internal migrant: Any person who is moving or has moved within a State for the purpose of establishing a new temporary or permanent residence or because of displacement (IOM 2019c).

International migrant: Any person who is outside a State of which he or she is a citizen or national, or in the case of a stateless person, his or her State of birth or habitual residence. The term includes migrants who intend to move permanently or temporarily, and those who move in a regular or documented manner as well as migrants in irregular situations (Source: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 2014). For statistical purposes, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs defines an international migrant as “any person who changes his or her country of usual residence” (1998, para. 32).

Labour migration: the process by which “a person ... migrates from one country to another with a view to being employed otherwise than on his own account and includes any person regularly admitted as a migrant for employment.”

Migration: The movement of persons away from their place of usual residence, either across an international border or within a State.

Planned relocation: Planned relocation in the context of disasters or environmental degradation, including when due to the effects of climate change, is a planned process in which persons or groups of persons move or are assisted to move away from their homes or place of temporary residence, are settled in a new location and provided with the conditions for rebuilding their lives (Source: Adapted from UNHCR, 2015:5).

Trapped populations: Populations who do not migrate, yet are situated in areas under threat, [...] at risk of becoming “trapped” or having to stay behind, where they will be more vulnerable to environmental shocks and impoverishment. (Source: Adapted from Foresight, 2011:25, cited in IOM, 2014, 17). Note: The notion of trapped populations applies in particular to poorer households who may not have the resources to move and whose livelihoods are affected (IOM, 2014, 17). Needs to be distinguished from **voluntarily immobile populations** or people, who have no migration intention.