

FORCED MIGRATION Review

DISASTERS AND DISPLACEMENT IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

This issue of Forced Migration Review was made possible through a project funded by the European Union and administered by UNHCR on 'Climate change and displacement: building an evidence base and equipping States with tools and guidance for action'.

Disasters, Climate Change and Displacement: Evidence for Action is a multi-partner project funded by the European Union whose overall aim is to address a legal gap regarding cross-border displacement in the context of disasters and climate change. The project brings together the expertise of three distinct partners (UNHCR, NRC/IDMC and the Nansen Initiative) and seeks to:

- 1) **increase the understanding** of States and relevant international community actors about displacement related to disasters and climate change;
- 2) **equip them to plan for and manage** internal relocations of populations in a protection-sensitive and rights-respecting manner; and
- 3) **provide States and other relevant actors with tools and guidance** to protect persons who cross international borders owing to disasters, including those linked to climate change.

In particular, the activities carried out within the project seek to contribute to the Nansen Initiative. The Nansen Initiative, led by the Governments of Norway and Switzerland, is a bottom-up consultative process intended to build consensus on the development of a Protection Agenda addressing the needs of people displaced across borders in the context of disasters and the effects of climate change.

Among other activities:

- › **The Nansen Initiative** organised five intergovernmental regional consultations in the Pacific, Central America, the

Greater Horn of Africa, Southeast Asia and South Asia, which contributed to a global consultation in Geneva, Switzerland on the Protection Agenda. The Nansen Initiative also drafted background papers and commissioned research to address knowledge gaps related to disasters, climate change and human mobility within each region. More information is available at www.nanseninitiative.org

- › **UNHCR** supported the Nansen Initiative programme of activities and developed preliminary guidance on planned relocation in the context of disasters and climate change, in partnership with the Brookings Institution and Georgetown University School of Foreign Services Institute for the Study of International Migration. UNHCR also serves as the Secretariat of the Advisory Group on Climate Change and Human Mobility that provides information and inputs for the UNFCCC process. More information is available at www.unhcr.org/pages/49e4a5096.html
- › **NRC/IDMC** supported the Nansen Initiative by producing quantitative estimates and projections of past and future displacement related to disasters and climate change, revealing how large displacement has been and the scale of the risk it poses in the future. In addition, NRC and IDMC have provided in-depth thematic analyses that have highlighted protection risks as well as opportunities for effective action to prevent displacement, protect the displaced and achieve durable solutions for them. More information is available at www.nrc.no/?aid=9137078 and at www.internal-displacement.org/publications?Theme=Disasters

DISASTERS
CLIMATE CHANGE AND
DISPLACEMENT

EVIDENCE
FOR ACTION



This project is funded by the European Union with additional contributions from the governments of Norway and Switzerland.

