Food insecurity and water scarcity as a driver and outcome of climate-induced migration

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Dimensions of food security and impacts of climate change

**Access**
- Loss of income due to loss of livelihoods
- Less production – higher food prices
- Physical displacement and access to markets

**Availability**
- Reduced or more variable rainfall reducing yields
- Reduced soil fertility due to drought & salinization
- Higher post-harvest losses and climate-induced pests

**Utilization**
- Impacts on food safety due to increased temperatures
- Worsening nutrition due to water quality and quantity

**Stability**
- Greater instability of supply due to extreme events
- Instability of incomes from agriculture and other sectors

**MIGRATION**
Rationale

1. Food security directly interlinked with incomes and livelihood options – disruption of these can result in migration
2. Climate change will affect all dimensions of food security – thus, climate can be an adverse driver of migration

Ex. ‘At the Root of Exodus’ (2017) – refugee outflows increase by 1.9% for each percentage increase of food insecurity

What can we do?
Unpacking route-based approach from a food security perspective

Point of origin and adverse drivers:

Strengthening resilience to climate change and improving food security by addressing underlying structural factors that contribute to distress migration.

Ex. Restore degraded areas that are vulnerable to shocks and stresses and were livelihoods are no longer able to sustain wellbeing, or providing vocational training for unemployed youth in urban communities.
Unpacking route-based approach from a food security perspective

**Transit and hazardous journeys**

Provision of principled humanitarian assistance to migrants who may have developed acute needs while on the move. Integration into national social protection systems based on responsibility-sharing.

Ex. Humanitarian food assistance (needs-based), specific nutritional support to children or access to school meals, the right of Venezuelan refugees to access national social assistance in Colombia.
Unpacking route-based approach from a food security perspective

Country of destination and hosting countries

Interventions to support IDPs, refugees and their host communities that build social cohesion, strengthen more inclusive access to benefits and employment, building (mobile) productive assets.

Ex. Job-referral mechanisms, home-based businesses, vocational trainings, advocacy, asset creation where possible.
EMPACT - Connecting vulnerable populations to the digital economy

Syrian refugees in Iraq:
10,000 participants
30% job retention

Digital Training
EMPACT builds human capital of its participants via the provision of skills, knowledge and connection to employment opportunities.

Networking
EMPACT aims at building a community among participants and alumni, being social capital part of the basis for sustainable livelihoods.

Financial Inclusion
Financial inclusion and access to financial services are fundamental in the global digital economy.

- IT Literacy Track + English + Soft Skills
- IT Expert Track + English + Soft Skills

Skills
Jobs
Challenges and conclusions

1. **Not all migration is negative** – huge contributions (filling critical labor gaps, remittance flows)
2. Evidence exists which highlights the link between food insecurity and increased migration.
3. Distress and forced migration a growing issue – we need to address diverse drivers which include food insecurity and increasingly climate knock-on effects
4. While challenging, a route-based approach is required to tackle adverse drivers and ensure safe migration at point of origin, during transit and at destination or hosting countries
5. Transboundary and inter-regional nature of migration pose significant difficulties for intervention design, planning and implementation.