

Implemented by:





Global Programme Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change (HMCCC)

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Component

The Challenge

East Africa is facing the negative impacts of an ever-increasing climate variability. Periods of droughts are becoming more frequent and last longer, rainfall patterns are disrupted as well, leading to higher probabilities of floods in certain areas.

The Goal

The main objective of the Global Programme Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change (HMCCC) is to improve applied knowledge relating to the sustainable management of human mobility in the context of climate change.

The Objective

Human mobility in the context of climate change (HMCCC) describes changes of residence in anticipation or response to the impacts of climate change. It encompasses migration (internal, cross-border and regional), displacement and planned relocation in anticipation or response to the impacts of climate change. To produce regionally adapted measures for dealing with these flows local governments need practice-based knowledge in order to trial measures and exchange experience with partners. Moreover, at the global and regional level, data and knowledge need to be improved.

The IGAD Migration Programme under the Directorate of Health and Social Development (HSD) supports its member states in

Project name	Global Programme Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change: IGAD Component	
Commisioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)	
Project region	IGAD member states: Djibouti (HQ), Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, Eritrea (suspended since 2007)	
Partner organisation	Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)	
Budget	Euro 564 000	
Duration	2020 – 2023	

improving the implementation on climate change-related displacement and migration. It is supported by the "Strengthening IGAD's Migration Policy Implementation" (SIMPI) programme which is commissioned by BMZ and implemented by GIZ.

The core strategies on migration and displacement are laid out in the IGAD-Migration Action Plan (IGAD-MAP). Moreover, the IGAD Protocols on Free Movement of Persons and Transhumance were adopted by the IGAD Council of Ministers. The Free Movement of Persons Protocol includes the facilitation of the movement of persons affected by disasters. Futhermore, in its Regional Migration Policy Framework (IGAD RMPF) adopted in 2012, IGAD stresses that climate change and migration are two processes that cannot be addressed separately. The IGAD Regional Climate Change Strategy (IRCCS) 2023-2030 outlines the rationale, vision, goal and strategic objectives of IGAD on topics such as climate change impacts mitigation, coordination, capacity development and financing.



Photos (left): Focus Group Discussion, Women, Livelihood study Turkana Central, Kenya (February 2022).

Photo (right): Interview of a pastoralist, Livelihood study Karamoja, Uganda (February 2022).

Contact person



Our Achievements

- The programme has developed an innovative modelling technique for human mobility in the context of climate change, with a focus on how slow-onset processes such as drought influence migration. By training its partner and owner of the model - the IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Center (ICPAC) - it has built capacities to further use and develop this model. The activity started in 2021, based on the analysis that there is very little data and responds to the needs of the partners for a standardized methodology for modelling the impacts of droughts and gradual climate change on human mobility in the region. The model serves to broaden member states' understanding of the impact of climate change on migration. It aims to inform early action to better prepare affected communities to avoid and mitigate negative impacts of displacement. The modelling activity has currently been taken over by the partners and the GP HMCCC is continuously supporting the integration of the model into the partners geoportal systems.
- In 2022 as well, the GP HMCCC launched a study on livelihood, resilience and migration in the context of slow onset climate change in the IGAD region. The livelihood study goals are to determine the impacts of droughts on the livelihoods of pastoral and agro-pastoral communities, analyze migration decisions in response to the effects of droughts and explore activities and policies that would increase resilience to droughts for the targeted communities. The study contains field research were communities residing the Kenyan and Ugandan borderland of the IGAD Karamoja Cross-Border Cluster were interviewed. The study has highlighted the cross-border effects of climate change and mobility, informing the implementation of IGAD's Free Movement Protocol and supporting disaster preparedness in border clusters.

- A scenario workshop on human mobility in the context of climate change and disasters was implemented in May 2022. The workshop aimed at fostering strategic thinking between various thematic fields such as climate change, human security, mobility, livelihoods such as pastoralism and possible adaptation. Rephrase with following the scenario workshop, an activity consisting better understanding which traditional mechanisms improving climate induced mobility as well as avoiding and resolving conflict are implemented by local communities and how regional policies can better support those, is currently being prepared.
- The programme is currently working on a study on financing for HMCCC in the IGAD region with the objective to identify potential to mobilize more financing for activities related to HMCCC in the IGAD region.



IGAD Cross-Border Clusters

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Photo (left): Group work, Scenario Workshop, Djibouti (May 2022).

Photo (right): Plenary Discussion, Scenario Workshop, Djibouti (May 2022).