

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

African Union Commission Component

Strengthening the capacities of continental and regional actors to implement climate-resilient, gender-responsive and conflict sensitive HMCCC approaches

The challenge

Partnering with the African Union Commission to Advance Gender-Responsive and Climate Resilient Human Mobility in Africa, the Global Programme on Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change (HMCCC) supports Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and African Union Member States in strengthening policies and implementing measures to address climate-induced migration and displacement.

Over the past decade, climate change has become an immediate and intensifying threat across Africa, contributing to widespread displacement, migration, and vulnerability. In 2023 alone, 6 million people were displaced by disasters in Africa (IDCM 2024 report). Climate change acts as a multiplier, exacerbating existing challenges like conflict, poverty, and political marginalization, thereby deepening human mobility pressures across the continent. Also, even though both global and African frameworks have evolved to address this nexus, women and marginalized groups are disproportionately impacted by climate change.

The African Union Commission (AUC) prioritizes the nexus between climate change, human mobility and security. However, its internal coordination capacity to address these

interconnected challenges is at an early stage. Regional Economic Communities (RECs) face significant challenges in addressing human mobility linked to climate change due to fragmented policies, varying national capacities, and insufficient coordination. While some RECs have developed approaches such as facilitating free movement or integrating disaster risk reduction, these efforts remain inconsistent. To effectively respond to these challenges, there is a critical need for greater policy coherence across sectors and countries, and for enhanced peer learning to share best practices, harmonize frameworks, and build regional resilience.

Therefore, the coordination capacity of regional and continental actors needs to be strengthened to implement climate-resilient, gender-responsive and conflict-sensitive human mobility in the context of climate change (HMCCC) approaches.



Project name	Global Programme Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change (GP HMCCC) II- AUC Component
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Project region	African Union
Lead Political Partner	African Union Commission
Lead executing agency	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
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*Right: A man is standing on the side of a boat in a flooded area
Center: Rural farmers tending crops in African field*

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Our approach

The project addresses these challenges working with the AUC to implement climate-resilient, gender-responsive and conflict-sensitive HMCCC approaches through the following lines of implementation

1. **Enhancing coordination capacities of the AUC** on HMCCC through the African Union Coordination Committee on Migration (AUCCM), thereby supporting Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Member States (MS) to gender-responsively address the topic.
2. **Advancing regional coordination and peer-learning initiatives** on the implementation of gender-responsive approaches to HMCCC.
3. **Promoting political coherence** across global, continental and regional levels on gender-responsive approaches to HMCCC in Africa.

Partners and Stakeholders

The project is implemented in close collaboration with the **AUC**, the primary political partner, working across multiple departments, directorates, divisions and mechanisms relevant to human mobility and climate change. These include:

1. **Labour, Employment and Migration (LEM) Division** under the Department of Health, Humanitarian Affairs, and Social Development (HHS)
2. **Sustainable Environment (SE) Division** under the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment (ARBE)
3. **Conflict Management Directorate** under the Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS)
4. **African Union Coordination Committee on Migration (AUCCM)**, an interdepartmental task force gathering key departments, organs and institutions of the AU ecosystem with migration related mandates, and which plays a central role in ensuring institutional coordination on migration-related matters.

Partnership and coordination with RECs - through both their secretariats and technical units - are integral to the project, ensuring that regional priorities and actions are coherent with continental frameworks and vice-versa.

In addition, the project engages a range of other stakeholders, including Economic Community of West African States Commission (ECOWAS), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and other RECs, as well as development organizations and partners working on the nexus between climate change, migration, and gender. These collaborations contribute to building synergies, promoting knowledge exchange, and ensuring coherence across policy levels and sectors.

Overview of Planned Activities

To advance a gender-responsive approach to human mobility in the context of climate change, the project is implementing a range of coordinated activities at the continental and regional levels designed to strengthen institutional capacities, foster policy coherence, and promote knowledge exchange among key stakeholders across Africa. This includes:

1. Facilitation of AUC-RECs coordination through the AU CCM
2. Facilitation of AUC-led inter-RECs exchanges on gender-responsive approaches to HMCCC
3. Support to the development of a continental strategy and plan of action to strengthen governance in the context of climate-induced migration
4. Facilitation of participation in key global and continental fora to present AU position on HMCCC.

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