

UPROOTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE

RESPONDING TO THE GROWING THREAT OF DISPLACEMENT

While not all displacement from extreme weather can be attributed to climate change, there's no question that without stronger action to tackle climate change and build resilience to its impacts, the trend of increasing displacement will get worse.

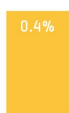
2008–2016

On average, people in **lower-income** countries were five times more likely to be displaced by sudden-onset extreme weather disasters than people in **high-income** countries.



Percentage of population displaced each year by sudden-onset extreme weather disasters (average)

Low- and lower-middle income countries
Around 14 million people



High-income countries
Around 1 million people



on average were reported newly displaced by sudden-onset extreme weather disasters each year between 2008 and 2016.



Above: Tiiria, 11, South Tarawa, Kiribati. Pacific Island countries and communities are working hard to catalyse international action on climate change and minimize the risks of displacement.



“MY GREAT HOPE FOR MY COUNTRY IS THAT IT REMAINS, EXISTING ON THE MAP.”

Claire Anterea, Kiribati
Climate Action Network

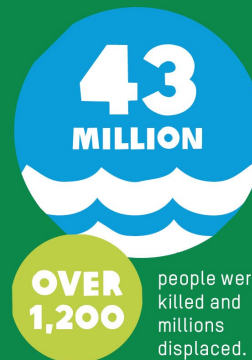
JANUARY–SEPTEMBER 2017

People displaced by extreme weather events



- FLOOD**
6,483,341
- STORM**
5,589,266
- DROUGHT**
1,894,200
- OTHER**
153,943

In August 2017, people affected by extreme monsoonal floods in Bangladesh, Nepal and India:



“WE HAVE NOTHING TO SURVIVE ON. EVERYTHING HAS GONE TO THE STOMACH OF THE SEA.”

Moneja Begum, Bangladesh

THE IMPACT ON THE WORLD'S POOREST COUNTRIES IS EVEN STARKER WHEN WE CONSIDER DROUGHT AND OTHER 'SLOWER-ONSET' EVENTS.

MORE THAN 3 MILLION PEOPLE IN LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN NEWLY DISPLACED BY EXTREME WEATHER DISASTERS IN 2017*

*Oxfam estimate, between January and September 2017.

More than half of them were displaced by drought.



“I MOVED HERE BECAUSE OF THE DROUGHT. I LOST MY LIVESTOCK. BEFORE, I USED TO HAVE 60 ANIMALS, NOW I JUST HAVE 20.”

Fadumo, Ethiopia

By one estimate, in the long term, sea-level rise resulting from 2°C of warming could submerge land that is currently home to 280 million people worldwide.



“WHEN WE TALK ABOUT RELOCATION, IT IS VERY CLEAR THAT THIS IS AN OPTION OF LAST RESORT. THIS IS OUR HOME. NO ONE IS WILLING TO LEAVE, TO LOSE THEIR CULTURAL TIES, THE LOVED ONES THEY HAVE LAID TO REST HERE.”

Hilda Mosby, Torres Strait Islander



A CALL TO ACTION

1 MINIMIZE DISPLACEMENT

Rich countries must dramatically strengthen action towards ending climate pollution, in line with limiting warming to 1.5C, and increase international finance for climate change adaptation.

2 UPHOLD RIGHTS FOR PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

The new Global Compact on Migration must ensure rights and protections for people forced to move in the context of climate change.

3 LONG-TERM STRATEGIES FOR SAFE AND DIGNIFIED MIGRATION

While relocation will always be an option of last resort, we must ensure that those who are forced to move are able to do so safely, with dignity, and on their own terms.

4 FINANCE AND RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE FORCED TO MOVE

Vulnerable populations must be able to access finance for loss and damage from climate change, including displacement, beyond the \$100bn already promised for adaptation and mitigation.

Read our briefing paper at <https://oxf.am/2zz6Jvs>

