

Norwegian Refugee Council/Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre submission on the ADP's work in 2012

According to the Norwegian Refugee Council's Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), in 2010 alone at least 38.3 million people were displaced by disasters triggered by climate- and weather-related hazards. Since the UNFCCC Parties agreed to the Cancun Adaptation Framework in December of that year, an additional 13.8 million people have been displaced by such disasters.¹ Were drought-related displacement to be included, the numbers would be even higher.

The potential further displacement of people in both developed and developing countries due to changes in the frequency and intensity of extreme events, acting in combination with other stress factors, is now widely accepted. This includes situations where the level of disaster risk in areas of origin require the permanent relocation of vulnerable populations, or where return does not offer a durable solution to displaced persons whose homes, assets, livelihoods and communities have been devastated. The IPCC special report *Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation* states with "medium agreement and evidence" that disasters associated with climate extremes influence population mobility and relocation, affecting host and origin communities. If disasters occur more frequently and/or with greater magnitude, some local areas will become increasingly marginal as places to live or in which to maintain livelihoods. In such cases, displacement could become permanent and may even introduce new pressures in areas of relocation.²

Managing the scale and frequency of existing disaster-related displacement already poses a challenge to many countries whose governments bear the primary responsibility for protecting and finding durable solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs). Therefore, it is urgent that the ADP make progress prior to and at COP18 which enables vulnerable countries to address the risk of future displacement—by preparing for and, where possible, preventing it—as called for in paragraph 14(e-f) of the Cancun Adaptation Framework.

¹ Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, 2012. *Global Estimates 2011: People displaced by natural hazard-induced disasters*. Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, Geneva, Switzerland.

² IPCC, 2012. *Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation. A Special Report of Working Groups I and II of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Field, C.B., V. Barros, T.F. Stocker, D. Qin, D.J. Dokken, K.L. Ebi, M.D. Mastrandrea, K.J. Mach, G.-K. Plattner, S.K. Allen, M. Tignor, and P.M. Midgley (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, and New York, NY, USA, 582 pp.