Dear Ms. Marine Franck,

In response to the call that was released by the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage related to displacement and human mobility. It is critical to consider the cultural heritage, history and lifeway of the displaced people and their definition of community. The lifeway of the community is an asset that can contribute to the wellbeing of the people and a contribution to the development of a strong, socially cohesive community once re-settled.

To that end I am submitting resources for your use on this difficult issue. For the past 24 years I have worked with coastal communities located in the delta-bayou region of Louisiana in the United States. It is the fastest disappearing delta in the world and home to many Indigenous tribes and historied communities. One Tribe, the Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw - Isle de Jean Charles Band, have chosen to re-settle as a community to assure Tribal sovereignty and continuity of lifeway. The website, www.coastalresettlement.org tells the story of the resettlement as well as the standards that are being used to develop the vision, the process and the implementation of the re-settlement. I am also attaching two documents, one written by Dr. Tony Oliver-Smith as a guideline for moral and ethical resettlement and the other a matrix of best ideas and guidelines for human, structural and environmental dimensions for a coastal sustainable community appropriate for indigenous communities.

With deepest respect,
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And

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