

ILO Update on TFD workplan activities

(18 September 2020)

➤ Activity 6

Compile selected good practice case studies and lessons learned from relevant projects/programmes that have integrated climate-related mobility for the purpose of improving the design of project proposals and access to funding

- **Lead and co-lead:** ILO, IFRC, IOM, UNHCR
- **Description of progress or current status** Initiated Complete
- **Outputs and outcomes described**

The ILO is running a project in IGAD region entitled, "[Free movement of persons and transhumance in the IGAD Region: Improving opportunities for regular labour mobility](#)" –PCCMHS (2017-2022). The overall objective of the project is to improve opportunities for regulated labour mobility and decent work within the IGAD countries through the development of models of intervention, in the broader context of the regional integration. ILO completed **phase I of a research project with the IGAD secretariat on the links between climate, displacement and employment**, which was presented at the Regional Consultative Process with governments, and social partners in August 2018. The Phase I report draw out the main gaps in the current knowledge on the linkages between climate change variables, labour markets and migration in the IGAD region including migratory routes and migrants characteristics, how climate variables interact with economic factors in migrants' decision to move and the opportunities and challenges of migration in IGAD region.

Phase II of the research (currently delayed for COVID-19) will move beyond the existing literature, travelling to case study countries identified under Phase I to collect direct evidence and data. The report will build knowledge and deepen understanding of the links between climate change, migration and employment; and draw out lessons learnt and examples of good practice to help inform labour migration, employment and labour market policies and programmes in the IGAD secretariat and its Member States. It will be presented at a regional tripartite validation workshop (to be held when feasible) and widely disseminated among IGAD and its Member States. The findings and their application may enable more substantial support for IGAD member States to address the protection and labour needs of those affected by climate and likely to move, and also to examine potential for decent work opportunities for affected communities in resilience building, reducing drivers and labour mobility for potential youth affected.

The ILO also taking part in a project in the Pacific entitled, "[Enhancing protection and empowerment of migrants and communities affected by climate change and disasters in the Pacific region](#)" (2019-2021) in partnership with IOM, OHCHR, UNESCAP, PIFS and PDD. The project aims to contribute to the protection and empowerment of communities adversely affected by, or at-risk of being affected by, climate change and disasters in the Pacific region, focusing specifically on climate change-related migration, displacement and planned relocation. ILO is largely focused on Objective 2 of the project, which is to ensure that migrants and host communities in the Pacific Island Countries (PICs) benefit from safe labour migration as a sustainable development and climate change adaptation strategy.

In 2019, the ILO publish [a Policy brief on Future of Work for Climate Resilience in the Pacific Islands](#) that described the current challenges (and opportunities) of labour migration and provided policy recommendations for member states of the Pacific Islands countries. **The ILO is currently conducting a joint tripartite [assessment and monitoring on the impact of COVID-19 on the labour market and business environment](#)**. The immediate objective of this joint assessment and monitoring is to contribute to national level evidenced based COVID-19 recovery policies and programs to advocate

for targeted stimulus packages, effective and equitable donor investment, addressing specific employers and workers individual value propositions and informing ILO Pacific Office effective support to its tripartite partners in 11 member countries. In 2020, the ILO Office for Pacific Island Countries supported the Cook Islands Ministry of Internal Affairs to launch a **new online [Employment Services platform](#) to connect businesses with job seekers**. [This initiative](#) targets people most affected by the impacts of COVID-19. In July 2020, the ILO office in Fiji published a new promotional [video](#) on 'Green Entrepreneurship and a Just Transition in the Auto-Waste Sector in Fiji'.

Using its internal funding, the ILO started a new **research project on the impact of COVID- 19 on the nexus between climate change, labour markets and migration in South Asia**. The scope of the research will cover both internal and international climate change induced migrants in the context of COVID-19. In addition, it will also analyze the policies of South Asian countries in treating climate induced migration/ displacement. This research will come up with learning from positive practices from different countries and offer policy recommendations for South Asian countries to pursue and provide guidance to incorporate the needs of various migrant groups in countries' existing or future national development policies while factoring in the intersectional realities of migrants regarding gender, ethnic or indigenous identity, disability status, among others.

➤ **Activity 7**

Raise awareness on integrating displacement in the context of climate change into national laws, policies and strategies, including on disaster response, building on mappings and lessons learned

- **Lead and co-lead** ILO, IFRC, IOM and UNHCR
- **Description of progress or current status** Initiated Complete
- **Outputs and outcomes described**

The ILO, as well as other members of the TFD, have been supporting the IGAD secretariat towards the process of drafting and adopted of the **Free Movement of Persons Protocol**. This protocol was endorsed in February 2020 at a Ministerial Meeting in February 2020. Article 16 in the [IGAD Protocol on Free Movement of Persons addresses cross-border disaster-displacement](#) – no other Free Movement Protocol speaks to disaster displacement specifically.

In the Pacific, ILO is participating as an implementation agency in PCCMHS programme, aimed, particularly, at the development of regional framework (Objective 3: *Contribute to the evidence-base on good practices in responding to climate change and disaster-related migration, displacement, and planned relocation with particular focus on the role of the human security framework*). Due to COVID-19, UNESCAP's organization of a **senior official's meeting (tentatively in late April/early May)** was postponed and is now planned to be organised later in 2020 online, through a series of web meetings and with support of online SOLEVAKA platform. A Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting was organised by OHCHR, with support of ILO and other implementing agencies. Due to COVID travel and meeting restrictions, TAG meetings were organised online with some face-to-face meetings. In June-July four webinars were organised, with 2-4 presentations delivered by TAG members at each webinar, and further discussion. The discussions were also conducted through SOLEVAKA online platform, developed by UN Pacific. ILO-nominated representatives of Workers and Employers regional Pacific organisations were included in TAG, and ILO also supported the development of TAG key messages related to labour migration. The TAG key messages are being finalised and will feed into the **senior official's meeting** planned later 2020.

ILO is also currently reviewing **seasonal worker's schemes** (SWS). The review examines the schemes in light of international instruments on human rights and labour standards and the inclusion of marginalise groups, with a particular focus on women and persons with disabilities. The ILO has

contracted two consultants for the SWS review, one with legal background and one working with interviews and analysing the data received on interviews. For this review, 120 interviews were conducted with return Migrant Workers in Samoa, Fiji, Vanuatu and Kiribati (30 interviews in each country) by national research assistants. All the data is now shared with the consultant, working on the review. Besides, interviews with key stakeholders, governments and trade unions in five sending countries and with governments, trade unions and employers' organisations in Australia and New Zealand are being conducted now . The consultants should be able to share the compiled report towards the end of the year. The report is planned to be presented to key stakeholders in PICs and Australia and New Zealand in early 2021.

➤ **Activity 10**

Conduct a seminar on labour migration and climate resilience

- **Lead and co-lead ilo** ILO/ITC/University in regions
Description of progress or current status Initiated Complete
- **Outputs and outcomes described**

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the **Labour Migration Governance training** in Pacific island countries (initially scheduled for 12-14 March in Fiji) has been postponed. The plan is to organize the first online phase at the end 2020 and the face-to-face phase in early 2021. In the PCCMHS programme budget, funds to cover participants from five PIC countries only were allocated. ILO Office for PIC applied for RBTC-SSTC funds to support PCCMHS activities, and received additional funding to invite representatives from six more PICs. Thanks to this additional support, the training will now be organised for representatives of all 11 ILO Member States in the Pacific.

➤ **Activity 12**

Provide capacity-building opportunities using relevant training materials on migration, environment and climate change

- **Lead and co-lead** ILO/IOM/PDD
- **Description of progress or current status** Initiated Complete
- **Outputs and outcomes described**

On September 2019, ILO participated in the Stakeholder Workshop on the "Role of free movement of persons agreements in addressing disaster displacement in Africa" with focus on ECOWAS, IGAD and SADC regions. ILO offered to support the institutional capacity building of existing Migration Observatories and explore the possibility of setting up a Migration Observatory in the SADC region as well.

In Pacific island countries, a few representatives of Pacific Governments (Fiji, Samoa) will attend on-line training on Fair recruitment; training materials will be used to deliver PCAs in Tuvalu and Kiribati.

➤ **Activity 16**

Help to make available supplementary guidelines on integrating human mobility into relevant national planning processes, including the process to formulate and implement NAPs, as appropriate change

- **Lead and co-lead:** ILO with IOM, UNHCR, UNOPS (PDD)
- **Description of progress or current status** Initiated Complete
- **Outputs and outcomes described**

In Pacific region, ILO will assist in development of **people-centred activities (policies/ action plans) in Tuvalu and Kiribati**. Based on 2019 reviews of the implementation of NLMPs in Tuvalu and Kiribati, ILO has developed concept notes on people-centred activities in Tuvalu and Kiribati, based on recommendations of the reviews. CNs have been shared with Governments of Tuvalu and Kiribati for confirmation.

➤ **Activity 20**

Identify opportunities for accessing existing funding and develop guidance on preparing project proposals on averting, minimizing and addressing displacement related to climate change for the GCF, other funds and donors

- **Lead and co-lead** ILO, IOM, UNHCR, UNOPS (PDD)
Description of progress or current status Initiated Complete
- **Outputs and outcomes described**

ILO, IOM, UNHCR, UNOPS (PDD) have collaborated to submit a joint proposal on **Addressing drivers and facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration in the contexts of disasters and climate change in the IGAD region** to the UN Network on migration Multi Partner Trust Fund in August 2020. This joint programme contributes to facilitating pathways for regular migration in the IGAD region and minimizing displacement risk in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters in line with the vision and guiding principles of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM). This will be achieved through addressing needs and gaps in i) data and knowledge; ii) national and regional policy frameworks; iii) disaster displacement preparedness AND iv) regular migration pathways. The Concept note was approved by Steering Committee and project development solicited (tiers 2).

In Pacific region, ILO and IOM submitted a proposal to the MPTF on **Labour mobility for sustainable development and climate resilience in the Pacific**. The joint programme will work with Pacific governments and stakeholders, including the private sector and trade unions to contribute to increased benefits of safe and fair migration as a sustainable development and climate resilience strategy. It will conduct assessments and set up dialogues related to labour mobility and climate change. It will work to ensure that decent work principles and standards are included in relevant labour migration programmes, regulations and legislation, and that potential migrant workers, recruitment agencies, and employer organizations in Australia and New Zealand are informed of these standards. The Concept note approved by Steering Committee (tiers 3)

In the Americas region, **as part of the collaboration between the ILO and the UNCCD**, the ILO developed some ideas towards a draft proposal for a **project in the Dry Corridor (Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras) to create alternative green jobs to prevent migration, particularly among youth, and address land degradation**. The project aims to conduct research on the links between environmental challenges and responses—particularly to slow onset events and sudden-onset disasters—and employment in *Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras*, including on the nexus between jobs, migration and environmental issues. It also aims to improve livelihood opportunities through the promotion and development of green and land-based jobs in healthy and resilient environment using a systemic approach. As part of this project proposal, the ILO would plan to increase capacity of the Governments of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, particularly the Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations, to govern migration effectively. The project will build the capacity of government and tripartite partners on the drafting, negotiation and implementation of bilateral labour agreements with key countries of destination, through a national workshop facilitated by ITC Turin and through fellowships provided to tripartite partners to attend relevant ITC Turin training activities.