

# TASK FORCE ON DISPLACEMENT

## UPDATE ON PROGRESS AGAINST WORK PLAN ACTIVITY AREA III

### Activity III.3:

**Analyzing available data on disaster-related displacement and its impacts in different regions and group of countries in specific circumstances (e.g. LDCs) related to sudden and slow onset events.**

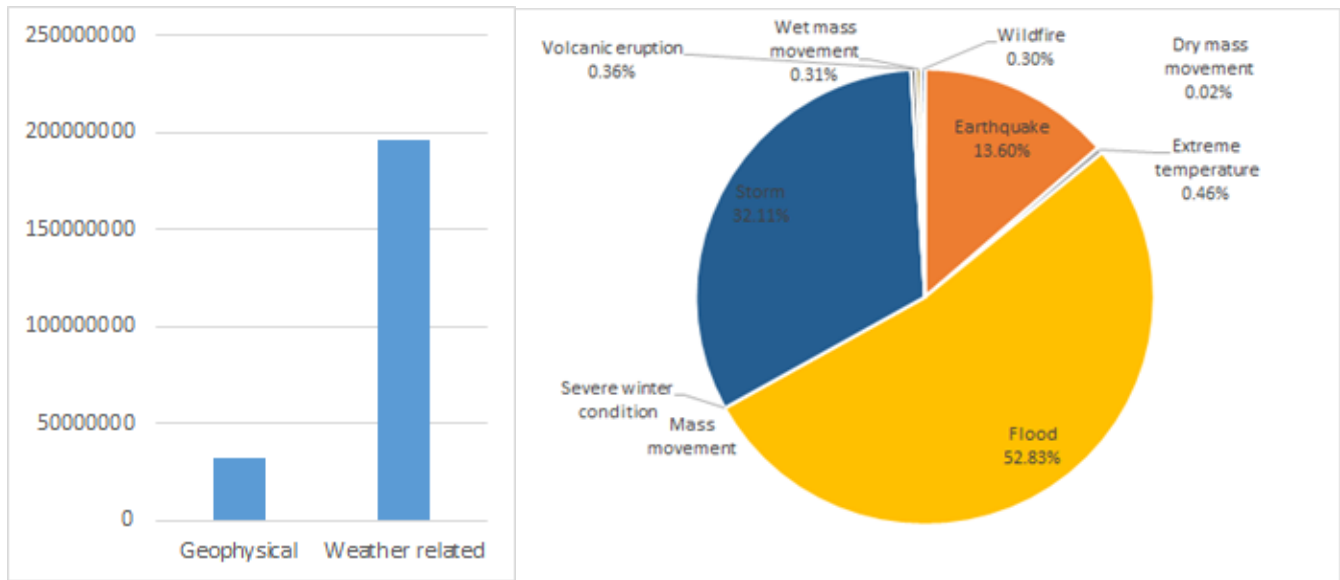
#### **2008-2016**

IDMC has monitored **3,297** events between **2008-2016** which have generated **227.6 million** “new displacements”. IDMC’s global estimates cover disasters triggered by sudden-onset hydro-meteorological and climatological hazards such as floods, storms, wildfires and extreme winter conditions; and geophysical hazards such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and landslides. They do not include displacements associated with slow-onset disasters such as drought and environmental degradation. Nor do they cover those associated with technological and biological hazards, such as industrial accidents and epidemics, except when they are triggered by a natural hazard. The displacement caused by radiation exposure in Fukushima following the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami in 2011 is one such example.

#### Drought: the missing hazard

Given the droughts that affected hundreds of millions of people in Asia and Africa, IDMC has attempted to collect quantitative data on the displacement associated with these events. Despite these ongoing efforts, we have struggled to produce global figures that are comparable from across countries and across drought events. In 2017, for example, IDMC obtained data on drought-related population movements in Cambodia, Ethiopia, India, Mozambique, Somalia and South Sudan; but the evidence obtained hardly painted a complete or coherent picture: in India and Cambodia, the way the data was reported made it difficult to distinguish displacements from seasonal labour migration. In South Sudan, the displacements were due to food insecurity which was partly influenced by a meteorological drought and more likely influenced by insecurity, as farmers reportedly could not access and harvest their crops. In Ethiopia, Mozambique and Somalia, the observational data and contextual evidence suggest that the reported displacements were likely due to a combination of drought and conflict. Given the multiple and interlocking factors, the different definitions and reporting terms, we did not report on people displaced exclusively by drought.

Climate and weather-related disasters regularly account for most (86%) of the global total with almost 196 million displacements recorded.

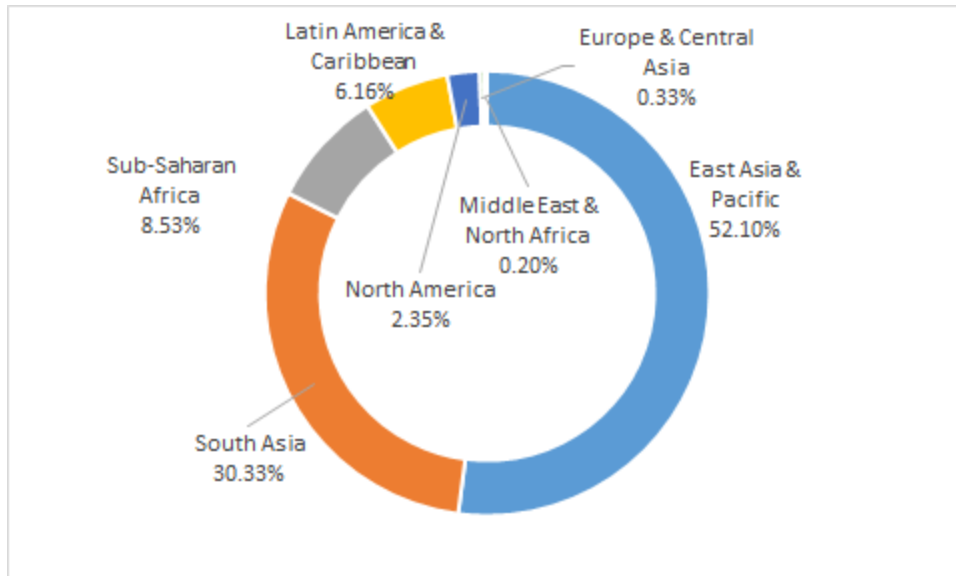


Of these hydro-meteorological events, floods account for more than half of the displacements (52%), following by storms (32%).

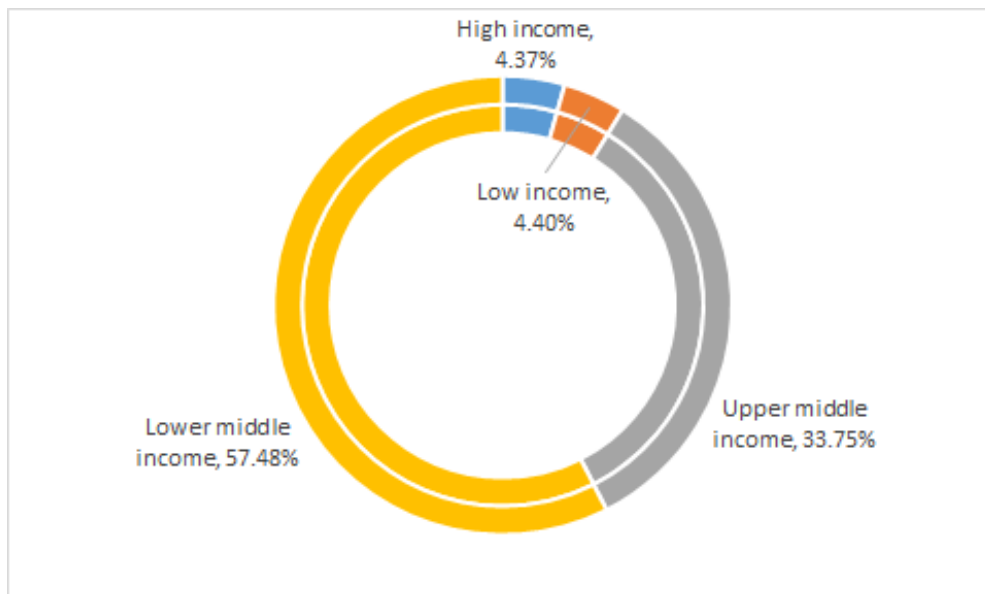
Massive earthquakes, which can displace several million people, occur infrequently, resulting in significant annual variance in earthquake-related displacements. During the nine-year period covered by our data, we observe that earthquakes caused about 14% of the displacements. Given the nature of these figures – and owing to the fact that they were not attributed to pre-emptive mass evacuations as is sometimes the case with floods and storms – earthquake related displacements can result in prolonged displacement and increasing vulnerability for those affected. Finally, volcanic eruptions, wildfires, landslides have generated massive displacements, accounting for only 3% of the total, but it represents more than 2.2 million people.

#### Regional overview:

More than 82% of all new disaster displacements between 2008 and 2016 occurred in the Asia and Pacific region (East Asia and the Pacific and South Asia). During this period, IDMC recorded approximately 161 million displacements, the equivalent to the population of Bangladesh.



91% of the displacements between 2008 and 2016 occurred in lower and upper middle income.



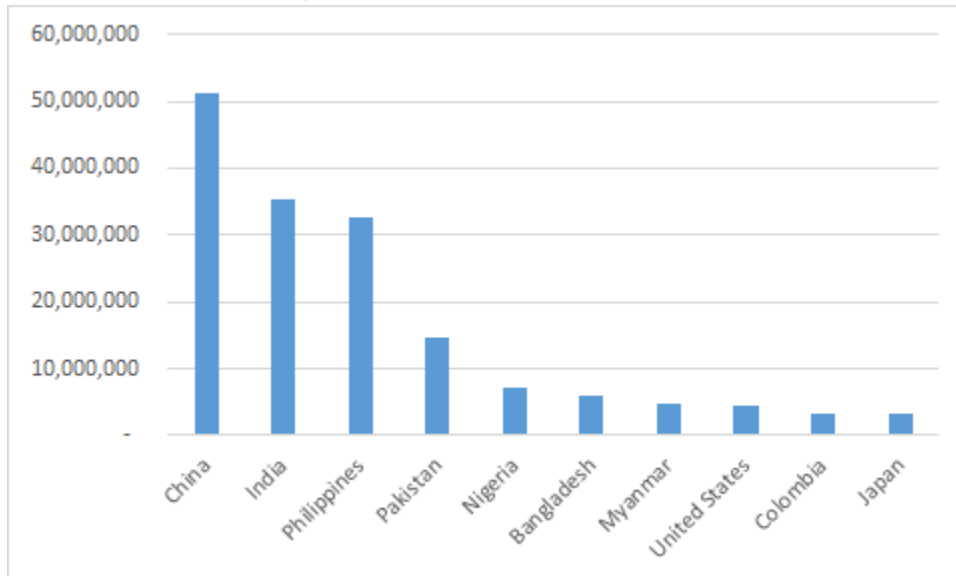
### Geographical distribution

### **Top 10 - Relative vs absolute displacements**

In absolute terms, the large and populous countries of China, India and the Philippines accounted for the highest numbers of displacements. When we assess displacement in relation to the size of each country's, however, the data tell a different story, with the several small island states at the top of the list. In the countries with the highest relative risk, we see that

much of the population has been exposed and vulnerable to the same hazard event (e.g. Cyclones Pam and Winston, Hurricane Irma, the Haiti and Nepal Earthquakes).

Absolute N° of new displacements - 2008-2016



Relative to population (100,000) N° of new displacements - 2008-2016

