

The Impact of Climate Change on the Right to Education

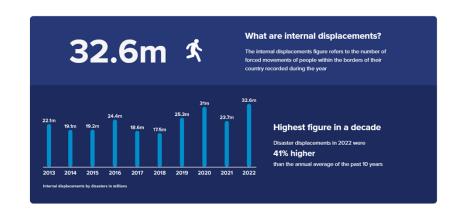
A UNESCO-led Global Initiative (2020-2023)

Webpage: How climate change and displacement affect the right to education | UNESCO



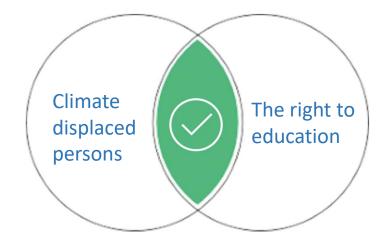
The Impact of Climate Displacement on RtE - The context

- > The right to education is a human right for all persons
- ➤ However, persons displaced of affected by the effects of climate change face significant **barriers to education**, such as for instance:
 - Schooling infrastructure destroyed
 - Language barriers for persons displaced in other regions
 - Risk of dropout to pursue economic activity following climate-induced poverty
 - The lack of legal residency rights for persons displaced internationally as a result of climate change
- ➢ Given that 32,6 million people were displaced in 2022 alone as a result of natural and climatic disasters, the barriers to education faced by climate-displaced persons are affecting a larger portion of the global population each year



(IDMC, 2023 Global Report on Internal Displacement)

Rationale for the Initiative



- ✓ Thematic area dedicated specifically to the effects of climate displacement on the right to education, building on previous work developed on refugees
- ✓ The project "The Impacts of Climate Displacement on the Right to Education" - launched in 2020 - aims to improve the preparedness of States to ensure the inclusion of all affected persons in quality education, through developing policy guidance based on regional research and country case studies

A three-step process

1. A policy paper

Includes a literature review of climate displacement, affected populations, legal frameworks, impacts on education, and general policy guidance

2. Country case studies and regional reports

- Country case studies carried out
- Synthesis report published for each sub-region studied

3. A global synthesis report and toolkit

- Trends in the results following the research in all four sub-regions
 - Policy guidance and recommendations







Regional research

Regional synthesis reports published, each focusing on a global subregion and based on in-depth country case studies produced



Purpose:

- To gather empirical data on the barriers to education to fill in the data gaps in existing literature;
- To identify patterns of climate displacement and barriers for climate displaced persons in the different and unique regional contexts;
- To develop tailored operational policy recommendations for the different scenarios in each region.

Some common trends in the Asia and Pacific region

Climate-displaced persons face administrative and language barriers to quality education, as well as trauma and discrimination

Climate-induced livelihoods losses, especially in rural areas, results in economic migration

Schools are often used as emergency shelters, preventing the continuation of education

Inconsistent and disintegrated disaster response policies and measures across government sectors, thereby delaying students' return to learning

Pre-existing inequalities become structural barriers for CDPs to accessing and enjoying their right to education

Poverty exacerbated by the effects of climate change leads to lower resilience to climate-related barriers to education Schools are damaged or destroyed by natural disasters, because of inadequate schools buildings and disaster management plans Planned relocation plans do not address the continuity of education, or do not create the livelihood necessary to pursue education

Global guidance for countries

- A global synthesis report will be published on the occasion of COP 28
- Aims:
 - Summarize the findings of each regional report;
 - Analyze the conversing and diverging trends among the four regions;
 - Summarize the most common impacts of climate change and displacement at the global level;
 - Provide global policy recommendations on how to ensure the right to education in the face of climate change and displacement.
- Policy recommendations will span across multiple fields (from law and policy, to school-level recommendations, to cross-sector collaboration and financing).
- To improve the preparedness and resilience of education systems to the effects of climate change and displacement in all scenarios (temporary displacement, permanent migration, cross-border displacement, planned relocation)
- Important that policymakers and international community begin to integrate climate risk into all planning, discourse and action across the board.



Thank you

Learn more: www.unesco.org/education



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