

HOW CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTS MIGRANTS' RIGHTS

CONFLICTS

Climate change indirectly increases the **risk of violent conflict by amplifying well-documented drivers of conflict**, such as poverty and economic shocks. Migrants may also be pushed back through dangerous border control regimes or in areas where their arrival may cause tensions with local communities over scarce resources.



HUMAN RIGHTS RISKS

Migrants who move in an irregular manner are exposed to **heightened risks** of marginalization, discrimination, persecution, arbitrary detention, **labour and sexual exploitation, human trafficking, violence, rape and torture**. Women and girls are particularly at risk.



LEGAL CHALLENGES

There are numerous barriers to international migration including **criminalization of irregular migration, migration policies based on deterrence** and lack of implementation of immigration laws and policies related to climate change.



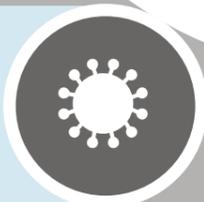
FORCED EVICTIONS

Some climate change measures can drive human movement. Some hydroelectric and conservation projects have resulted in forced evictions. Planned relocations of those affected involve high risks of human rights harms.



THE RIGHT TO HEALTH

Migrants who are compelled to move in an irregular manner are exposed to **heightened risks of diseases** due to the lack of access to health care and other basic services. The **lack of safe, accessible and regular migration pathways** increases the risk of injuries and death.



POVERTY

Climate change exacerbates existing inequalities and is most felt by the poorest communities, leading to increased migration rates. **Lack of financial income, limited access to skilled labour markets and limited access to social capital increase the risk of poverty among migrants** in their country of destination.



DID YOU KNOW?

All persons are rights-holders regardless of migration status. All States have ratified at least one international human rights treaty. States have the obligation to take measures to mitigate climate change and prevent its negative impacts on human rights, to ensure all persons have the capacity and means to adapt; and to ensure accountability and effective remedies for harms caused by climate change.

Let's promote a human rights-based approach to climate action and migration, which addresses the needs of people affected by climate change and protects their rights before, during, and after migration!