Stories of climate mobility: understanding the impacts, informing effective response

Panel Discussion at the Climate Mobility Pavilion at COP27
Hosted by the Global Centre for Climate Mobility

15 November
15:00-16:00 local
time (GMT +2)

Blue Zone, Area B,
Delegation Pavilion 1, Pavilion #P28
Sharm El-Sheikh International
Convention Center (SHICC)

Raphaela Schweiger
Program Director
Migration, Robert
Bosch Stiftung

Jane Linekar
4Mi Global
Coordinator, Mixed
Migration Centre

Ritu Bharadwaj
Principal Researcher
and Team Leader,
Governance of Risk,
Climate Change
Group, International
Institute of
Environment and
Development (IIED)

Dr. Priscilla M.
Achakpa
Founder and
Executive Director
of Women
Environmental
Programme (WEP)

STORIES OF CLIMATE MOBILITY
UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACTS, INFORMING EFFECTIVE RESPONSE

15 NOVEMBER 2022
Jane Linekar
Head of Research

Mixed Migration Centre

ABOUT THIS PRESENTATION

Using our analytical framework and data to **tell the story of climate mobility** and relay the key messages and findings for **policy and programming.**
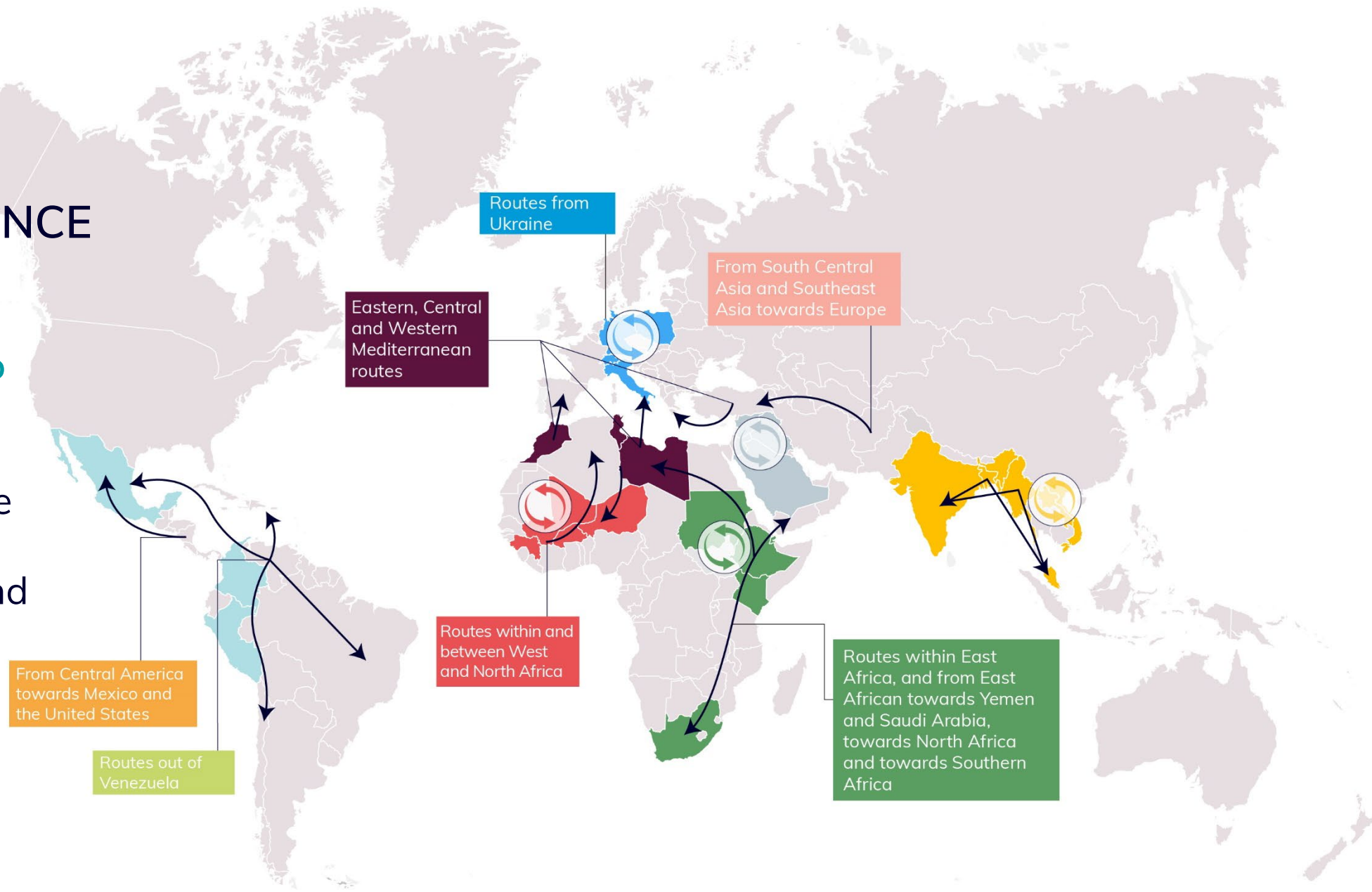
ABOUT THE MIXED MIGRATION CENTRE (MMC)

A GLOBAL RESEARCH NETWORK

Focusing on six regions: Asia and the Pacific, East and Southern Africa, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North Africa and West Africa.

Regional hubs are hosted in the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) regional offices in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America, and a global team in Geneva.

SOURCE FOR CREDIBLE EVIDENCE & EXPERTISE

Data and analysis to support agencies, policy makers and practitioners to make well-informed decisions in policy and programming responses to mixed migration.

Routes from Ukraine

From South Central Asia and Southeast Asia towards Europe

Eastern, Central and Western Mediterranean routes

From Central America towards Mexico and the United States

Routes out of Venezuela

Routes within and between West and North Africa

Routes within East Africa, and from East African towards Yemen and Saudi Arabia, towards North Africa and towards Southern Africa

INTRODUCTION TO 4MI

4Mi is the Mixed Migration Centre's **flagship primary data collection system**, conducting survey interviews with **refugees and migrants** on the move in more than **15 countries** to help fill knowledge gaps and inform policy and response.

100,000
Interviews since 2014

**120
FIELD ENUMERATORS
19
LANGUAGES**

30,000+
Interviews on our interactive dashboard since 2019

4Mi
A GLOBAL DATA COLLECTION INITIATIVE

OUR WORK ON CLIMATE MOBILITY

Better understanding the **links between climate change and mobility** to improve policy and response.

UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE MOBILITY

MMC developed a conceptual model to understand better the role of climate change and climate-related events as drivers of (im)mobility.

CLIMATE-RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSORS

EXISTING ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

Existing mobility patterns
Capability to stay
Other adaptation strategies

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE-INDUCED MOBILITY – DECISION MAKING

ASPIRATIONS TO MIGRATE?

• CLIMATE-RELATED DRIVERS

• OTHER (POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, CULTURAL, SOCIAL ETC.) DRIVERS

CAPABILITY TO MIGRATE?

• INDIVIDUAL AND HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

• MIGRATION INTERFACE
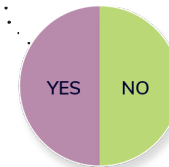
YES   NO

NO   NO

YES   YES

YES   NO
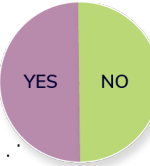
MIGRATION OUTCOME*
INVOLUNTARY IMMOBILITY
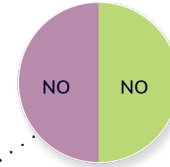
MIGRATION OUTCOME*
FORCED MOBILITY OR TRAPPED
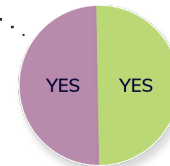
MIGRATION OUTCOME*
VOLUNTARY MOBILITY

MIGRATION OUTCOME*
VOLUNTARY IMMOBILITY

*   *The line from "voluntary" to "involuntary" is a continuum. The boxes here simplify to clarify the model but do not reflect reality.*

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

To better **understand the links between climate change and mobility** and to gain an understanding of current activities relating to climate mobility.

2019

WEAK LINKS REPORT ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND CROSS-BORDER MOBILITY IN EAST AFRICA

2020-21

AFRICA CLIMATE MOBILITY INITIATIVE: DATA COLLECTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS ROLE IN DRIVING MIGRATION

2021

RABAT PROCESS REPORT ON ENVIRONMENTAL DRIVERS

2022

KHARTOUM PROCESS REPORT MAPPING ON-THE-GROUND ACTIVITIES RELATING TO CLIMATE MOBILITY

2022 ONWARDS

STATE-OF-THE-ART PAPER ON MMC'S KEY MESSAGES ABOUT CLIMATE MOBILITY

LINKING THE TWO PHENOMENA

With an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, in the near future, growing numbers of people are likely to be displaced or decide to migrate or relocate as a response.

WE MUST RECOGNISE THE COMPLEXITY OF THE MULTIPLE FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

Photo credit: Panos

LINKING CLIMATE CHANGE AND MOBILITY AT THE MICRO-LEVEL

4Mi collects thousands of interviews across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean to offer a more detailed understanding of mixed migration and **to explore links to climate change.**

LATIN AMERICA &
THE CARIBBEAN

4,633
Guatemala, Honduras,
El Salvador, Venezuela
nationals in Colombia,
Costa Rica, Mexico,
Panama, Peru
Data collected: Feb 2021 – June 2022

AFRICA

5,826
West and Central Africans
in Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso,
Libya, Tunisia and Sudan
Data collected Feb – Sep 2021

3,801
East Africans in Somalia,
Sudan, Libya and Tunisia
Data collected: Feb 2021 – Apr 2022

ASIA

5,101
Afghanistan, Bangladesh,
Myanmar, and Pakistan
nationals in Greece,
Indonesia, Italy, Libya,
Malaysia, Tunisia and
Turkey
Data collected: Feb 2021 – June 2022
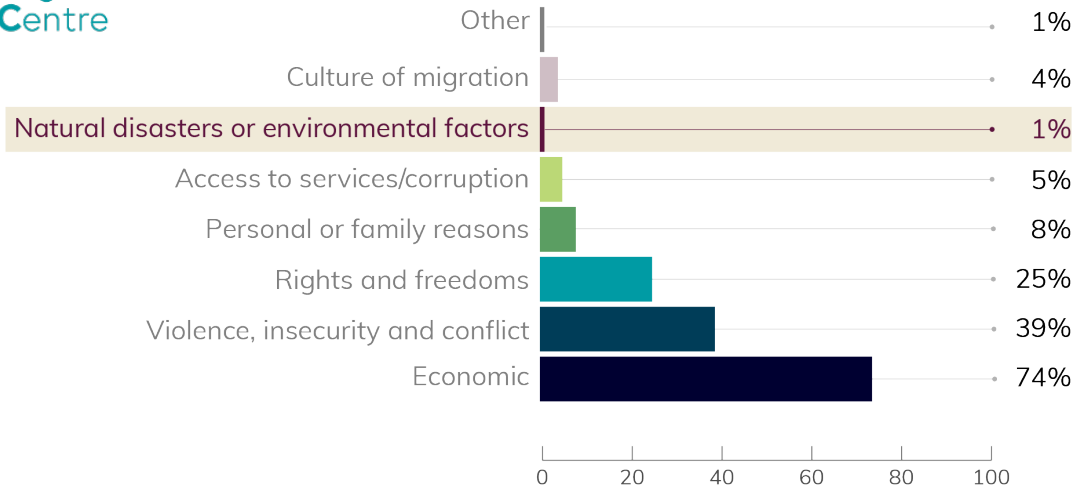
![Mixed Migration Centre logo]

WHAT WE FOUND
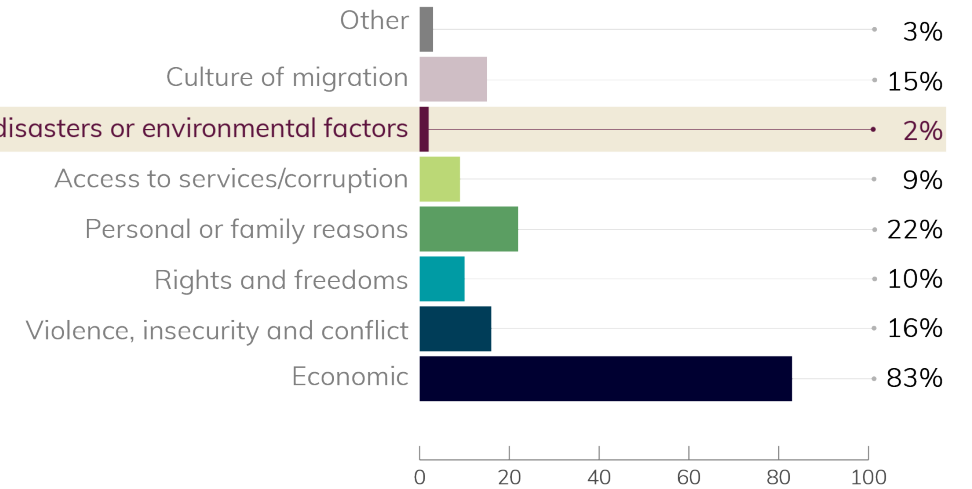
FOR WHAT REASONS DID YOU LEAVE?

OUTCOME
Respondents frequently reported immediate and proximate drivers related to markets, insecurity, or the political context.
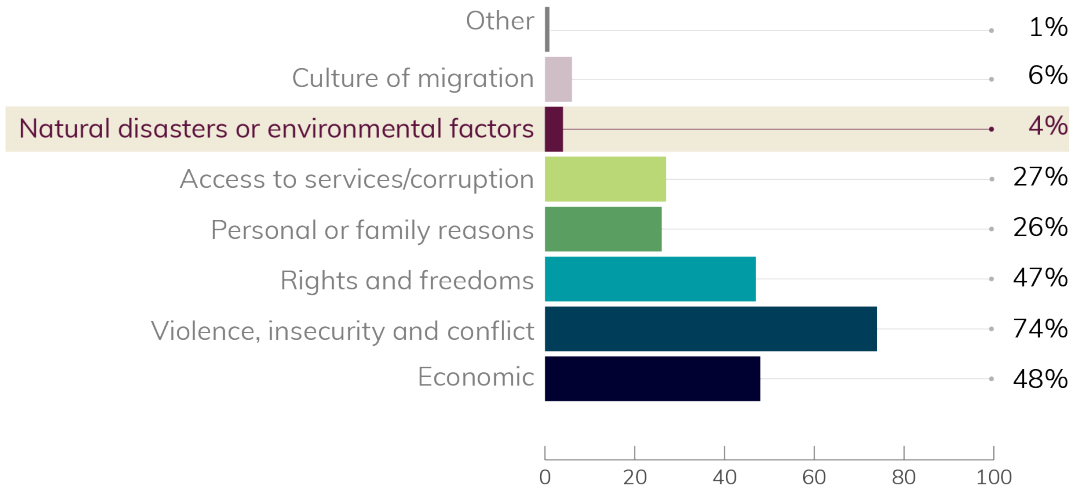
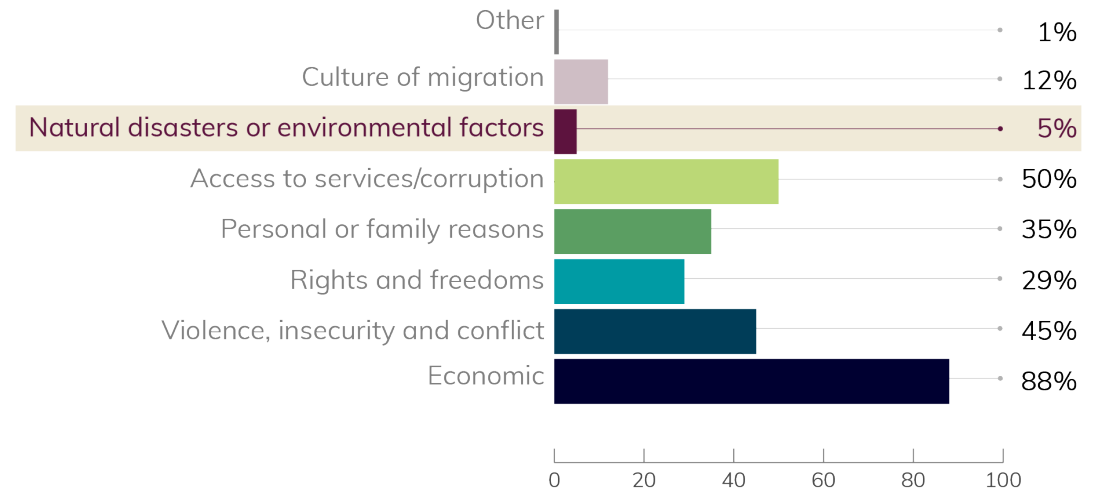Environmental factors rarely feature in data on primary movement drivers.

EAST AFRICA

Category	Value
Other	1%
Culture of migration	4%
Natural disasters or environmental factors	1%
Access to services/corruption	5%
Personal or family reasons	8%
Rights and freedoms	25%
Violence, insecurity and conflict	39%
Economic	74%

WEST & CENTRAL AFRICA

Category	Value
Other	3%
Culture of migration	15%
Natural disasters or environmental factors	2%
Access to services/corruption	9%
Personal or family reasons	22%
Rights and freedoms	10%
Violence, insecurity and conflict	16%
Economic	83%

ASIA

Category	Value
Other	1%
Culture of migration	6%
Natural disasters or environmental factors	4%
Access to services/corruption	27%
Personal or family reasons	26%
Rights and freedoms	47%
Violence, insecurity and conflict	74%
Economic	48%

LATIN AMERICA

Category	Value
Other	1%
Culture of migration	12%
Natural disasters or environmental factors	5%
Access to services/corruption	50%
Personal or family reasons	35%
Rights and freedoms	29%
Violence, insecurity and conflict	45%
Economic	88%

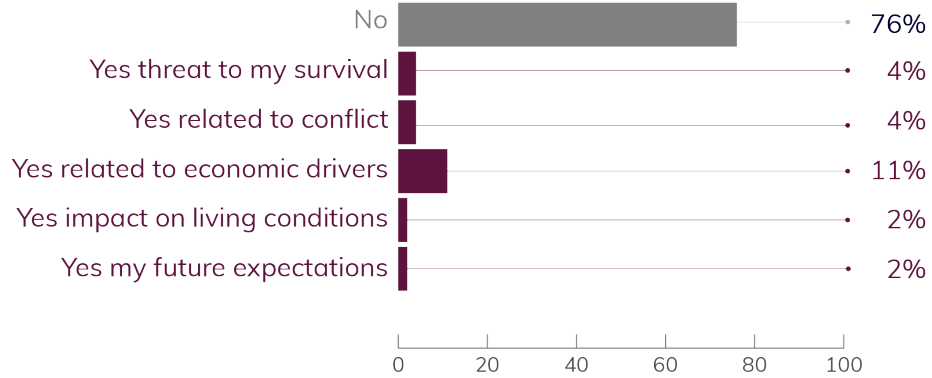**Refused answers were 0%; Don't know answers were 0%**

WHAT WE FOUND

WERE ISSUES RELATING TO THE CLIMATE OR THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT A FACTOR IN YOUR DECISION TO LEAVE YOUR COUNTRY OF DEPARTURE?
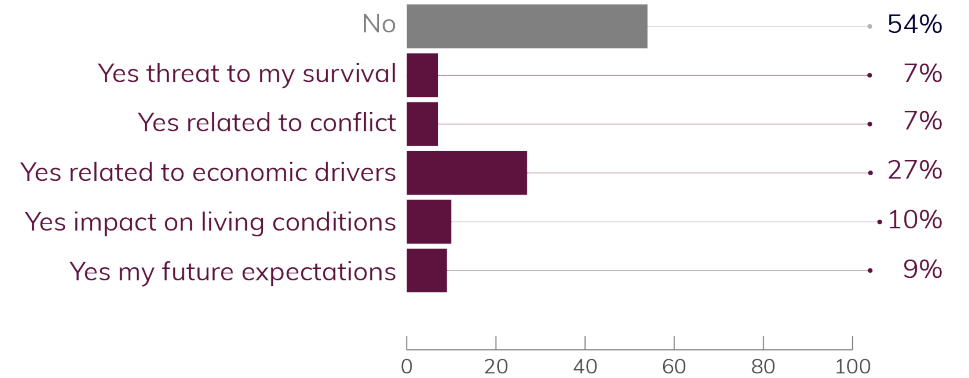
OUTCOME
A far greater proportion of respondents said environmental factors did feature in their decision to leave their country of departure.
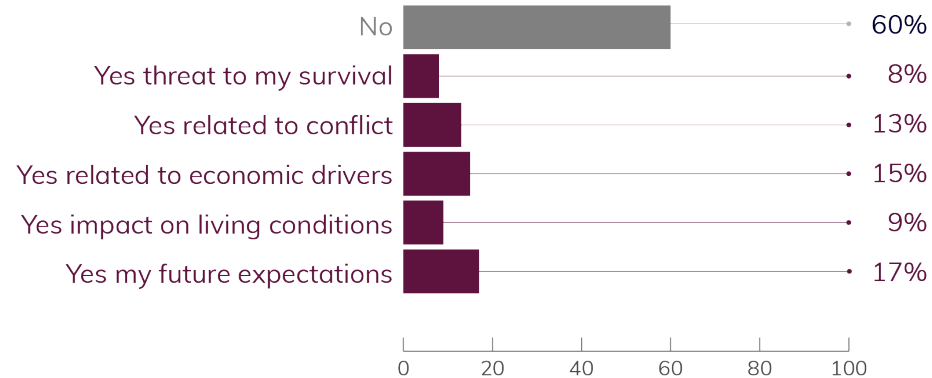
Environmental factors are more often acknowledged to play a role in the decision to leave a country, when we ask the question directly.
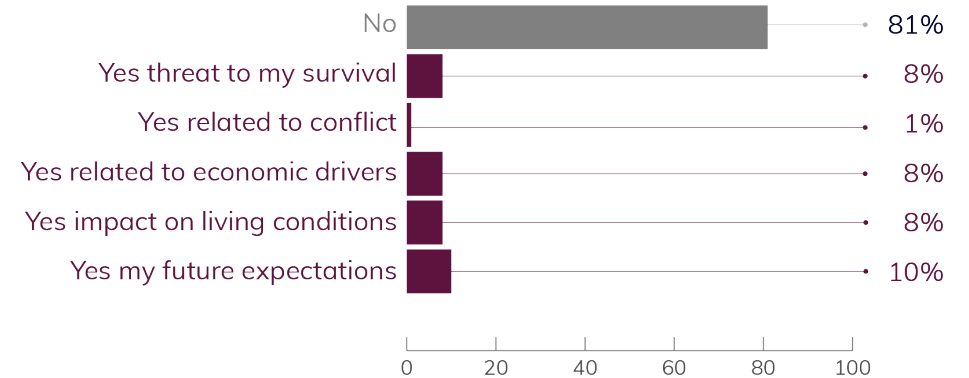
EAST AFRICA

No	76%
Yes threat to my survival	4%
Yes related to conflict	4%
Yes related to economic drivers	11%
Yes impact on living conditions	2%
Yes my future expectations	2%

WEST & CENTRAL AFRICA

No	54%
Yes threat to my survival	7%
Yes related to conflict	7%
Yes related to economic drivers	27%
Yes impact on living conditions	10%
Yes my future expectations	9%

ASIA

No	60%
Yes threat to my survival	8%
Yes related to conflict	13%
Yes related to economic drivers	15%
Yes impact on living conditions	9%
Yes my future expectations	17%

LATIN AMERICA

No	81%
Yes threat to my survival	8%
Yes related to conflict	1%
Yes related to economic drivers	8%
Yes impact on living conditions	8%
Yes my future expectations	10%

Refused answers were 0%;
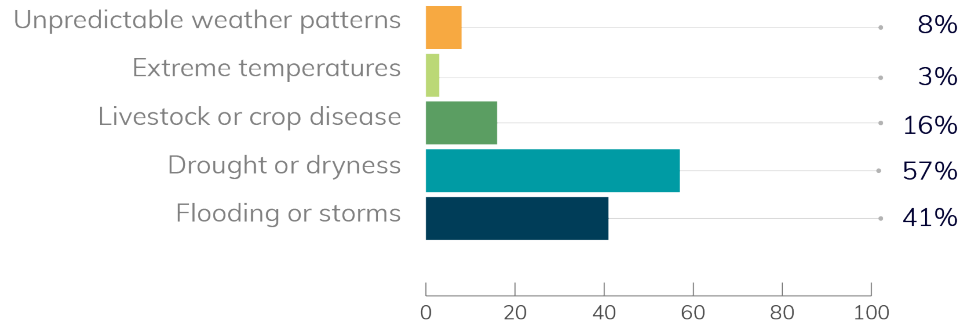Don't know answers were 6% or below

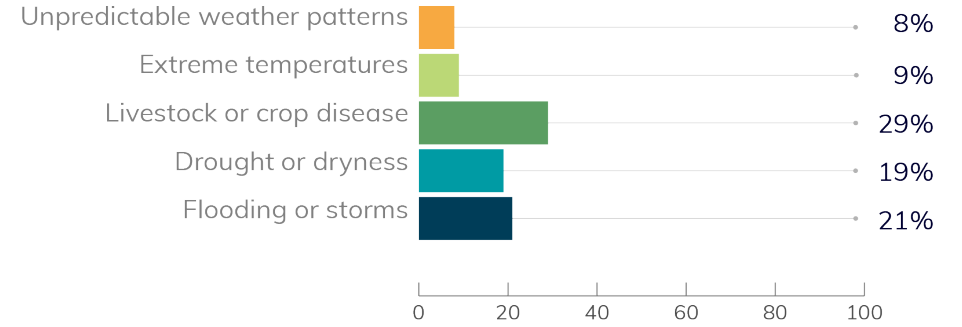# ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS IMPACTING MIGRATION

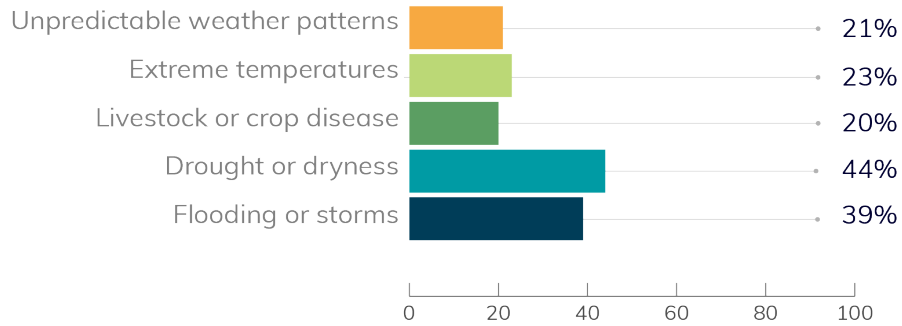## WHAT KIND OF NATURAL DISASTER OR ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR?

OUTCOME
Both slow and sudden onset disasters are connected to migration - droughts and dryness, as well as storms and flooding.
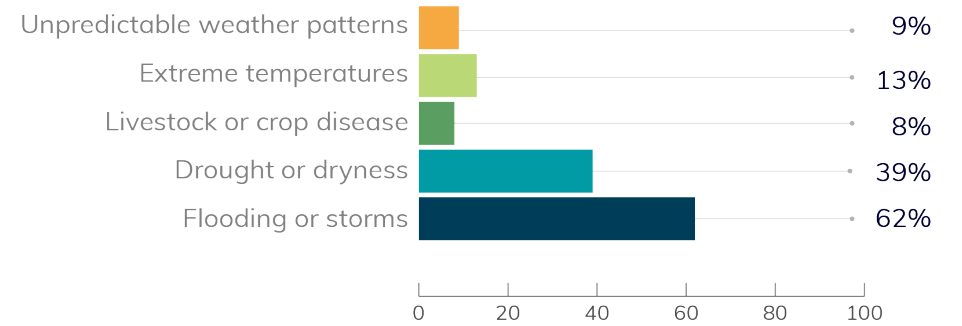
EAST AFRICA

Unpredictable weather patterns	8%
Extreme temperatures	3%
Livestock or crop disease	16%
Drought or dryness	57%
Flooding or storms	41%

WEST & CENTRAL AFRICA

Unpredictable weather patterns	8%
Extreme temperatures	9%
Livestock or crop disease	29%
Drought or dryness	19%
Flooding or storms	21%

ASIA

Unpredictable weather patterns	21%
Extreme temperatures	23%
Livestock or crop disease	20%
Drought or dryness	44%
Flooding or storms	39%

LATIN AMERICA

Unpredictable weather patterns	9%
Extreme temperatures	13%
Livestock or crop disease	8%
Drought or dryness	39%
Flooding or storms	62%

Refused answers: 3% among East Africans, 11% among West and Central Africans, 17% in Asia and 1% in Latin America;

Other answers: 16% among East Africans, 6% among West and Central Africans; 1% in Asia and 1% in Latin America.

STORIES FROM AFRICA, ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA

Communities, population groups, and individuals are impacted differently; understanding the varied climate impacts and mobility outcomes.

IMMOBILITY
KARAMOJA, AGRO-PASTORALIST COMMUNITY, UGANDA

> *Only men own property here. This has tied our hands.*
> Women's focus group discussion participant

GENDERED IMPACTS | Women are more engaged in subsistence agriculture; women do not own land or property

Photo credit: www.hippopx.com

IMPACTS OF CLIMATE-INDUCED STRESSORS

75%
Affected by drought

66.7%
Affected by land degradation

WHY DO PEOPLE STAY?

82%
Of women are not considering moving

MOST THINK CHANGES ARE POSSIBLE
Common solutions include farming/ gardening and working **longer** hours.

Photo credit: AMISOM Public Information

INTERNAL MOVEMENT

PRAIA NOVA, BEIRA, MOZAMBIQUE

GENERAL PERCEPTION

66%
Think moving is normal

90%
Want to move

40%
Feel they are forced to move

MOST THINK FLOODING, RISING SEA LEVELS, AND STORM SURGES WILL WORSEN IN THE FUTURE.

Photo credit: Pete Smith

IMPACTS OF CLIMATE-RELATED EVENTS

Loss and damage to assets, health, safety and security

WHY DO PEOPLE STAY?

80%
Believe that unsustainable measures such as working longer hours and selling assets can improve the situation

> "
>
> *When the cyclone passes, I'm homeless, When a rise in sea level water reaches my house, it gets inside and damages a lot.*

35-year-old woman interviewed in Praia Nova

WHY DO PEOPLE MOVE?

There is permanent and temporary displacement from Beira because of storms and flood damage

Photo credit: USAID Mozambique

Mixed Migration Centre

EXTERNAL MIGRATION
BANGLADESH

A FAMILIAR STORY: CLIMATE CHANGE IS A THREAT MULTIPLIER

Bangladeshis turn to people smugglers to reach Malaysia and beyond because of economic insecurity and poverty exacerbated by climate change impacts.

Photo credit: Lars Schoebitz

WHY DO PEOPLE MOVE?

32%
The environment is a direct driver

60%
Consider flooding as the main hazard

54%
Report extreme temperatures

> *I migrated because of a lack of opportunities in my own country, but even in Malaysia, I cannot make a comfortable life because I'm illegal.*

A 38-year-old man who left Barisal, Bangladesh partly because of drought

Photo credit: Patrick Brown / Panos

Photo credit: Panos

EXTERNAL MIGRATION

HONDURAS

Respondents who left Honduras due to environmental factors, among others, were often **travelling with children on a treacherous journey through Mexico** to the United States.

19%
OF RESPONDENTS CONSIDERED ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS TO BE A DIRECT DRIVER OF MIGRATION

WHY DO PEOPLE MOVE? CLIMATE STRESSORS AND OTHER FACTORS CONTRIBUTE TO MIGRATION

43% Male
63% Female
Increased frequency of extreme weather events

OF THOSE LEAVING DUE TO ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS
56%
Threat to survival

50%
Poverty

"
The times we are living in are very difficult, it forces us to leave our homes, but it is better to be at home with little than to be out here enduring so many things, with uncertainty and without knowing what is going to happen.

26-year-old man from Lempire, Honduras, interviewed in Tijuana, Mexico, partly motivated to move by unpredictable weather patterns

KEY MESSAGES

Photo credit: United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM)

THE LINK BETWEEN CLIMATE AND MOBILITY IS COMPLEX

The impacts of climate-related events are often one of several drivers of mobility.

CLIMATE IMPACTS ARE CONNECTED TO OTHER DRIVERS OF MOVEMENT

Climate change and environmental factors are not independent but closely connected to other drivers influencing migration.

STRESS MULTIPLIER

Climate-related factors prove a stress multiplier when making a decision about migration.

OPTIMISTIC
Despite the worsening of climate-related events, this does not negatively affect most people's perceptions of their future well-being.

STAY AND ADAPT
Adaptation strategies rarely appear to be sustainable. The most common ones are working longer hours and reducing food consumption.

IMMOBILITY IS COMMON AND RESILIENCE IN PLACE, NOT DEPARTURE, WAS THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

SHORT-DISTANCE & INTERNAL
Our findings do not support the often-heard narrative of large-scale climate-induced transcontinental migration.

URBANISATION TREND
Climate mobility will be part of the urbanisation trend – people moving to nearby cities.

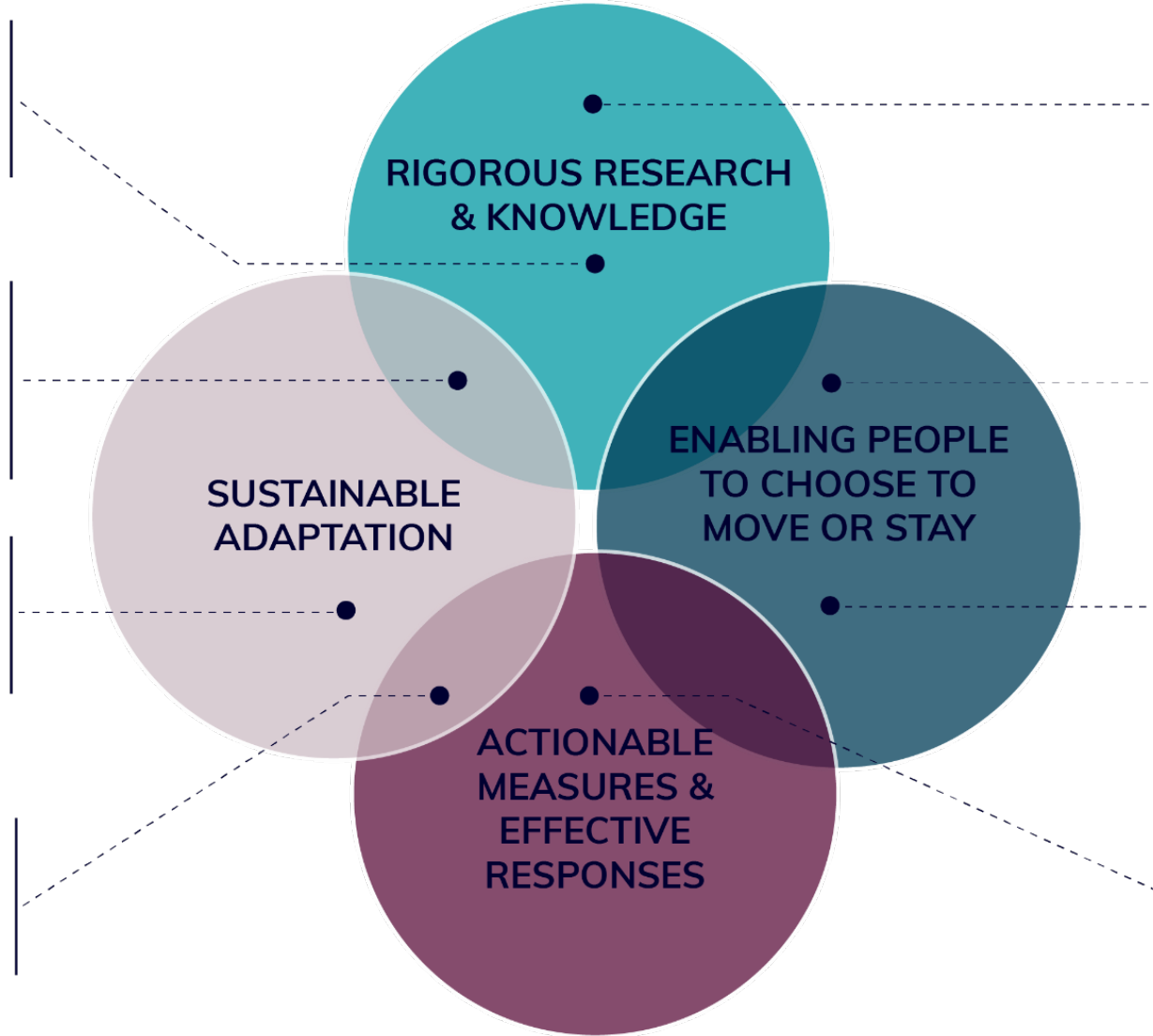# FINAL THOUGHT

THE INTERSECTION OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND MIGRATION

Differences between contexts and population groups mean knowledge needs to be local

Understanding the complexity of links between climate change and mobility; accounting for intersectionality

Vital to consider the capacity to adapt, and where mobility lies within that, to formulate effective strategies for sustainable adaptation

Migration can be among the positive and negative adaptation strategies to climate change

Where people cannot stay, solutions need to be found together

Acknowledging the positive and negative effects of staying

Enable people to choose and to thrive

Knowledge enables us to take action to address a complex issue; local and targeted responses are key

RIGOROUS RESEARCH & KNOWLEDGE

ENABLING PEOPLE TO CHOOSE TO MOVE OR STAY

SUSTAINABLE ADAPTATION

ACTIONABLE MEASURES & EFFECTIVE RESPONSES

THANK YOU

info@mixedmigration.org
www.mixedmigration.org