



## Action Group: Migration and Water Nexus in the Context of Rural Development

**Date:** 9:00 – 10:30 GST Thursday, 24 March 2022

Room 4 Expo

**Title of the session:** *Are Water Deficits and Extreme Events Increasing Migration and Displacement?*

### Introduction

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There is growing evidence that water scarcity, changes in precipitation patterns and extreme weather events combined with socioeconomic vulnerabilities are driving migration and displacement. In 2016, climate and water-related disasters were responsible for displacing 23.5 million people. Closing the knowledge gaps by gathering statistics, data and information on migration and its drivers, is key to support evidence-based policies, programmes and investments to tackle migration. There is no clear, simple solution, but while the cost of responses to migration is concerning for States, the cost of no decisions will certainly surpass it.

### Overall objective

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Provide latest data and evidence on the linkages between water and migration and identify the knowledge gaps so they can be included in future research programs and projects.

### Expected results

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- Better understanding of the status and prospects of migration linked to water risks.
- Presentation of the most recent data and information.
- Knowledge gaps identified.

### Agenda

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#### Welcome and introduction to the session (5 min)

- Eugène Rurangwa, Land and Water Officer, FAO Sub-regional Office for West Africa

#### Keynote presentation: *Water and Migration: a general overview* (10 min)

Current evidence about migration and water available data and information at global level

- Hind Aïssaoui Bennani, Specialist at IOM – UN Migration

#### Q&A session (5 min)

#### Regional perspectives

##### *The role of migration as climate change adaptation strategy in the Near East and North Africa region* (10 min)

- FAO speaker (TBC)

##### *Trends of water and climate crisis in Asia and Africa and spill over impacts such as migration / displacement* (10 min)

Focus on how economic development affects water availability and water environment, and vice versa

- Kensuke Fukushi, Academic Programme Advisor at UNU-IAS, with contribution from Nidhi Nagabhatla, Senior Research Fellow at UNU-CRIS

##### *Future scenarios modeling on climate mobility in Africa*

- Sarah Rosengaertner, African Climate Migration Initiative

#### Q&A session (15 min)

#### Expert panel discussion (20 min)

The way forward and knowledge

Speakers: IOM, FAO, UNU, ACMI, young experts