

About MECC

Migration, environment, and climate change (MECC) are interlinked phenomena. Environmental degradation and climate-related disasters, deteriorating access to natural-resource based livelihoods and tensions over shrinking natural resources are different migration and displacement push factors. Migration can serve as an adaptation mechanism to the adverse impacts of extreme weather and climate-related disasters, for example by providing migrants with access to alternative livelihoods and by providing safe refuge from inhabitable locations.

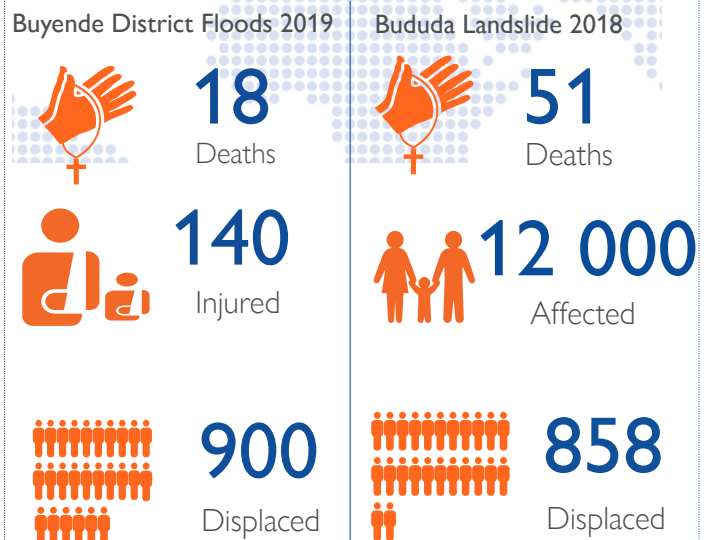
However, unplanned and unmanaged environmental migration can also lead to adverse consequences, including violence and more structural forms of disadvantage, leaving some groups such as women and girls, disproportionately vulnerable. Climate change is expected to exacerbate sudden and slow-onset disasters as well as gradual environmental degradation.



MECC in Uganda

In Uganda, the effects of climate change are becoming ever more pronounced. Among them are soil erosion and degradation, increasing variability in rainfall, and rising temperatures. Over the years, Uganda has incessantly faced climate change and environmental degradation related challenges, leading to forced displacement and migration, like the mudslides and landslides in the Mount Elgon sub-region, which leads to displacement and fatalities. The north-eastern, sub-region of Karamoja has also been repeatedly hit by extremely harsh and prolonged droughts, with pastoralists struggling to find water and pastures.

Disaster Trends



IOM Approach to MECC

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), as the leading UN migration agency, has been at the forefront of operational, research, policy and advocacy efforts, seeking to bring environmental migration to the heart of national, regional and international concerns, in collaboration with its Member States, observers and partners.


Objectives

01



To minimize forced and unmanaged migration resulting from environmental factors

02



Where forced migration does occur, to ensure assistance and protection for those affected and to seek durable solution.

03



To facilitate the role of migration as an adaptation strategy to climate change.

Current MECC Activities in Uganda

Since 2019, IOM is implementing a research and capacity-building program titled “Data for Development: Understanding Environmental Migration in Uganda for Policy Development” funded by the Development Fund. The interventions will improve the capacity of Government of Uganda and relevant stakeholders in utilizing MECC evidence for design, delivery and monitoring and evaluation of policy and programming.

Summary of response



Beneficiaries

Direct Beneficiaries: Government officials (30% female, 70% male)

Indirect Beneficiaries: Environmental migrants and displaced persons.



Duration







24 months



Location

Project focus areas are Karamoja, Bududa and Katakwi

Project Deliverables

-  **5** DTM Reports
-  **5** DTM Flow monitoring survey reports
-  **60** GoU officials (**30%** female, **70%** male) trained on migration, environment and climate change
-  **1** research report on national profile on environmental migration
-  **3** district level action plans on migration, environment and climate change
-  Consultative elaborations on Uganda NAP

Partners

Uganda Bureau of Statistics ● Department of Disaster Preparedness and Management ● Makerere University ● District authorities

International Organization for Migration

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