

The Global Compact on Migration: Improving protection for environmental migrants?

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The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration addresses key issues related to all forms of human mobility that occur in the context of climate and other environmental change. Migration in the context of environmental drivers are discussed in Objective 2 (Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin) and Objective 5 (Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration) among others. Recommended actions include better mapping, understanding, predicting and addressing migration movements that may result from sudden-onset and slow-onset natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation; developing adaptation and resilience strategies to address these movements; integrating displacement considerations into disaster preparedness strategies, such as early warning, contingency planning and reception and assistance policies; and developing practices for admission and stay for migrants compelled to leave their countries of origin due to sudden-onset natural disasters, as well as identifying solutions for those leaving due to slow-onset disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation. This presentation will discuss these and other provisions in the compact related to climate mobility as well as steps taken (or not) by the UN Network on Migration, the International Migration Review Forum, and other processes designed to foster the implementation of the compact.