Sustainable Management of Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change

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**Climate Change Impacts**

**SLOW-ONSET EVENTS**
relate to environmental degradation processes, such as
- droughts and desertification
- increased salinization
- rising sea levels

**SUDDEN-ONSET EVENTS**
comprise hydro-meteorological hazards, such as
- floods
- typhoons
- landslides (or mudslides)

**Human mobility**
in SIDSs and coastal areas

**Other Factors**
Employment, social, family, conflicts, etc.
- Human mobility in the context of climate change -

**MIGRATION**
- People migrate when they have the necessary resources and capabilities (e.g. financial resources and health) to choose between different options
- Temporarily to seek employment due to deteriorating living conditions, or
- Permanently due to dramatic changes (e.g. frequent extreme events)

**DISPLACEMENT**
- Primarily a situation where people are **forced to leave** their home **temporarily or permanently**
- Mostly associated with extreme weather events or to avoid the effects of armed conflict
- Typically communities are affected as a whole.

**PLANNED RELOCATION**
- Planned process of settling individuals or groups of people to a new location
- Process organized by the state or (local) government with strong participation of the affected communities and the hosting communities

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**TRAPPED POPULATIONS:** **CANNOT LEAVE** their hometown due to worsening livelihoods and increasing poverty

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*Advisory Group on Climate Change and Human Mobility, 2014, Platform on Disaster Displacement*
Analysis leading to the design of the program

- Lack of experience, approaches and knowledge in dealing with human mobility induced by climatic change
- Lack of resources and capacity in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)
- Need for knowledge production and transfer
- Wanting to enable voluntary migration decisions
- Driven by the reduction of (internal) displacement
- Realizing that planned relocation should happen in a transparent, participative and demand-oriented manner
Program objective

Progress in the **applied knowledge** in the field of sustainable management of human mobility in the context of climate change in our partner countries/regions: Philippines, Pacific and Caribbean, Germany and International Cooperation

- **BMZ advice & support of international policy processes (output A)**
  - e.g.: International dissemination of methods and knowledge developed in cooperation with partner countries

- **Generation and dissemination of knowledge (output B)**
  - e.g.: Identification of the most promising methods through knowledge generation and transfer

- **Support for project partners at national and local level (output C)**
  - e.g.: Supporting the partners in dealing with HMCCC through policy gap analysis, policy development, capacity development
Eastern Caribbean Context

- Limited possibilities for internal migration in the island states
- Lack of national and regional legal regulations on climate-induced mobility
- Opportunities: Free Movement of Persons within the OECS (Revised Treaty of Basseterre 2010)
- Causes for displacement are mainly extreme weather events and disasters (hurricanes, tropical depression, droughts…)
- Few links between policy makers in the migration/immigration field and the climate change field
Program activities

- Inception WS with OECS MS on HMCCC in September 2018
- Workshops on strategic foresight in November 2018, April and June 2019
- Conduct of training courses on Climate Risk Management and Climate-Induced Migration for technical staff in government ministries (in cooperation with IOM) in March 2019
- Delegation visit of three program components to Germany
- Knowledge products: baseline studies, fact sheets, posters, pictures, documentary movie, video statements, etc.
- OECS webpage HMCCC
- Awareness Campaigns in communities of three OECS MS
- Pilot projects to increase resilience (e.g. riverbank stabilization)
Awareness campaigns

- Objective: raise awareness on the impacts of climate change, migration and urgent relocation caused by natural disasters
- Need to better understand human mobility including migration, displacement and planned relocation and climate change to proactively address the topic
- Importance of community-level dialogue to effectively share information and sustainably manage the inevitable displacement of persons in a disaster
- It is important that the residents be fully involved in identifying appropriate solutions
- “We cannot predict the future, but we can prepare for it.” (Resident of Anse-La-Raye)
Outlook

- Symposium International Disaster Reduction Day
- Support the Caribbean Migration Consultations WG on Human Mobility in Contexts of Disasters and Climate Change - develop a Plan of Action
- Establishing a technical working group to link different departments of the OECS Commission
- Identifying HMCCC focal persons in the OECS MS
- Document lessons learned from Hurricane Maria and Irma
- Sensitization of immigration/customs officers concerning identification of victims of human trafficking and traumatization/psychological support
- Other areas of support, e.g. resilience fund, support of vulnerable groups, digitalization
Thank you for your attention!
Any questions or comments?

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