

SECOND SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON MIGRATION 2023

Think about Tomorrow, Act Today: The Future of Human Mobility and Climate Change

5–6 October 2023

InterContinental Hotel, Geneva, Switzerland

Provisional Agenda¹

The global response to climate change and human mobility is at a crossroads. According to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, "current policies are taking the world to a temperature rise of 2.8 degrees Celsius by the end of the century. That spells catastrophe."² In 2022, 32 million people worldwide were displaced by climate-related disasters. Disaster is a daily reality for migrants who are forced by environmental pressures to leave their families and communities in search of work in foreign lands.

As the world faces the full impact of climate change, failing to act is not an option. This is why the IOM asserts that "*We can no longer talk about climate change without talking about human mobility*".

Join us for two days of thought-provoking discussions and help us identify the solutions of the future. It is vital that those on the frontlines of the climate crisis and young people, whose future is at stake, are involved and heard. Join us at the event and share your ideas with us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).

The urgency of addressing climate mobility has never been greater. This can only be done if states, the UN system, civil society, private sector organisations and communities work together to transform the way we think and act in the face of the climate crisis, now and for the future. To accelerate action, we need climate mobility to be at the top of the political agenda. But we also need it to be part of everyday conversations with families, friends and colleagues. We all have a role to play in finding solutions.

¹ Updated on 22 August 2023.

² UNSG, 15 June 2023.



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Thursday, 5 October

09:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Registration
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Welcome Session
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Keynote Address
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Panel I Think about Tomorrow, Act Today
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Activity
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Panel II Closing the data action gap – multi-stakeholder perspectives and solutions
4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Cocktail

Friday, 6 October

09:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Registration and coffee
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Panel III New Solutions for New Generations - Youth Perspectives on Climate Action and Mobility
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Panel IV Bridging the Gap: Transformational Partnerships with the Private Sector for Climate Action
1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Closing remarks: Towards COP28
1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Press Conference

DETAILED PROGRAMME - Thursday, 5 October 2023

09:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | Registration and coffee

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Welcome Session

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Keynote Address

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Panel I: Think about Tomorrow, Act Today

“We can no longer talk about climate change without talking about human mobility.” It is now undisputed, that the adverse impacts of climate change are increasingly forcing people to move from their homes, whether directly through sudden-onset disasters or indirectly through the deterioration of natural resources-dependent livelihoods. For many, deciding to move can be a positive adaptation strategy to climate change-induced pressures. Others move because they have no alternative options. And for many others, especially those in vulnerable and socially marginalized groups, migrating will not be an option because it requires economic and other resources that they simply do not have. What solutions can help people to stay (when it is still possible), help people to move in a planned and orderly manner, and help people who are already on the move?

Objective: Identify tomorrow’s migration, environment and climate change trends and galvanise support for regional leaders as they navigate the nexus today.

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Side event (TBC)

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Panel II: Closing the Data Action Gap – Multi-stakeholder Perspectives and Solutions

The global response to climate change and human mobility is shifting from awareness towards action, through data and analysis. For example, analysis suggests that the direct impacts of climate change, combined with slow-onset changes in the ecosystems upon which people depend which drive declining freshwater availability, diminishing soil fertility and worsening crop growing conditions, and extreme heat combine to decrease the habitability of large areas across many parts of the world³. Analysis of scientific literature by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change states with very high confidence that global warming reaching 1.5°C in the near-term would cause unavoidable increases in multiple climate hazards and present multiple risks to ecosystems and humans, and that the level of risk will depend on near-term trends in vulnerability, exposure, level of socioeconomic development and adaptation.

In the face of so much disruption, it is hard for countries and agencies to know what actions to take to build resilience and help societies adapt. IOM is making substantial investments in an unparalleled, global data collection and analysis system for anticipating humanitarian needs arising with climate impacts. IOM’s data provides insights about how to empower and deliver on the promise of migration to enhance climate resilient sustainable development in communities across the world⁴. IOM’s data informs actions that drive solutions for those who are on the move and the communities that remain in situ.

³ [UN](#) Viviane Clement et al., *Groundswell Part II: Acting on Internal Climate Migration*, (Washington, D.C., World Bank, 2021).

⁴ During the International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) session in New York in March 2023, it was highlighted that more action is urgently needed to tackle climate change and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Objectives:

- Examine evidence of adaptation actions and outcomes for displaced people, migrants, and people who remain in situ in different parts of the world.
- Highlight gaps and where data indicates that further progress is needed to avert and reduce climate change impacts on people and help foster adaptation and resilience.

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. | Cocktail

Friday, 6 October 2023

09:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | Registration and coffee

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Panel III: New Solutions for New Generations – Youth Perspectives on Climate Action and Mobility

Today we have the largest generation of young people in history – 1.8 billion adolescents and youth (aged 10 to 24), with 31% of international migrants below the age of 30. Youth are one of the key driving forces for supporting sustainable development and contributing to peace & security by participating in policy making and implementation. On the other hand, young people regardless of their nationality are facing a common challenge: climate change. The largest generation of youth in history is facing today's global climate crisis. More than ever, their common goal is to find solutions to climate change. Can the solutions be found in the linkages between climate action, innovation and mobility?

Migration can amplify challenges faced by youth, such as family separation and dangers linked to migration through irregular channels. However, migration can also offer new opportunities for adapting to the impact of climate change, through skill development, work and educational opportunities. Youth are powerful agents of change when it comes to promoting climate action, disaster risk reduction and building resilience. Youth represent an immense source of energy, innovation and inspiration for future change. Empowering youth to fully participate in decision making is crucial. We need to listen to their ideas so we can formulate new policy solutions with youth, for youth and across generations.

Objectives:

- Discuss key actions that youth movements and consultations have taken to place climate change, innovation and human mobility at the centre of global policy discussions.
- Showcase the outcomes of recent youth discussions, such as the Africa Continental Workshop on Strengthening Youth Voices on Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change, which could provide best practices and provide innovative solutions for policymaking.

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Panel IV: Bridging the Gap: Transformational Partnerships with the Private Sector for Climate Action

It is estimated that by 2050, 200 million people every year could need humanitarian assistance due to a combination of climate-related disasters and the related socio-economic impact of climate change. In an era marked by unprecedented environmental challenges, the critical intersection of climate change, mobility, and community resilience takes a central stage. This global challenge requires global solutions and all stakeholders

need to be included in the design and delivery of sustainable solutions towards climate action.

Partnerships with the private sector at local, regional and international levels are needed to develop comprehensive people-centred solutions to climate change. Collaborations with the private sector can support and uplift vulnerable communities affected by climate change. This panel discussion will highlight the transformative role partnerships with the private sector can play in advancing forward-looking and people centred solutions towards climate action and resilience.

Objectives:

- Showcase innovative ways the private sector can drive people centered solutions for climate mobility.
- Highlight the shared responsibility of private sector actors in addressing climate change and human mobility.

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Closing remarks: Towards COP28

Without concrete climate action, the young generation will be the one feeling the harsh effects of climate change in the upcoming decades, with impacts on their mobility. Predictions indicate that 216 million people across six regions (World Bank, 2021) could be on the move within their own countries because of the adverse effects of climate change. Considering the demographic weight of youth in these places where predictions are the highest, it is likely that many more young people will be affected by mobility impacts linked to climate change in the immediate and longer-term future. The Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change in his 6th report of 2022, put it very clearly, "Regions with more youthful populations – such as Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Central America - are both highly vulnerable to climate change impacts, and reliant on agriculture, forestry, aquaculture, and fisheries for livelihoods. (...) In these vulnerable regions, climate change compounds other drivers such as poverty to increase youth out-migration to urban areas or other regions (medium confidence), which can further worsen rural economies."

Objective: Interactive discussion with participants in the room/ Intergenerational dialogue between IOM's Director General, Deputy Director General, IOM Youth Ambassadors as well as other youth participants

1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. | Press Conference