



# Report: Children displaced in a changing climate: preparing for a future already underway

Wednesday 14 - Friday 16 February 2024

In partnership with
UNICEF and the Office of the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement

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Millions of children are being driven from their homes by weather-related events, exacerbated by climate change. Decisions to move can be forced and abrupt in the face of disaster, or as the result of pre-emptive evacuation or relocation – where lives may be saved, but many children still face the challenges that come with being uprooted from their homes. In the context of slow-onset climate processes, displacement can be driven by an interplay of socio-economic, political, and climate-related factors. Despite demonstrating extraordinary resilience and capabilities, their decisions to move often occur in a context of constrained life choices and eroding livelihoods, where children and young people are trapped between aspirations and hopes, a duty of care to their families and communities, and pressures to leave home.

Internal displacement – whether short-lived or protracted – can multiply climate-related risks for children and their families. In the aftermath of a disaster, children may become separated from their parents or caregivers, amplifying risks of exploitation, child trafficking, and abuse. Displacement can disrupt access to education school (with more than 10 million IDP children out of school) and healthcare, exposing children to malnutrition, disease, and inadequate immunisation, while overcrowded and under-resourced evacuation sites may themselves be in climate-vulnerable areas. At the same time, migration – despite the well-documented risks, is still seen as a rational adaptive response by millions of children and their families facing unsustainable conditions in their communities of origin as a result of growing climate-related pressures.

And the problem of internal displacement is growing. Overall numbers of displaced have doubled in the last 10 years. Conflict levels are at their highest point in three decades. Disasters are on the rise too, with climate change

shaping more destructive weather events and a growing number of slow-onset disasters like sea-level rise, salinisation, and desertification. As a conservative estimate, the humanitarian system spent more than \$6 billion assisting Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in 2023.

Internal displacement – and the solutions to resolve it – are also getting more complex. Displacement is increasingly the result of multiple factors, often conflict and climate interacting in negative ways. Climate change is intensifying disputes over scarce resources, reducing economic opportunities, and straining public institutions and infrastructure across the globe. In fact, 40% of all internal armed conflicts between 1950 and 2000 were linked to disputes over natural resources such as water, land and forests. The 20 countries with the highest vulnerability to climate change and lowest capacity to cope, hosted over 26 million IDPs at the end of 2022. And one quarter of countries with extremely high climate risk for children, according to UNICEF's Children's Climate Risk Index (CCRI), also have very high levels of displacement – with more than five per cent of the population displaced.

Participants at this Wilton Park dialogue explored the challenges and opportunities related to child displacement in the context of climate change. Grounding the discussion was an acknowledgement that we cannot address the challenge of climate change without also preparing for accelerating displacement and mobility; while children contribute the least to climate change, they are disproportionately affected by its impacts. At that same time, what is good for children, is good for everyone – prioritising children in climate-focused solutions can simultaneously help us achieve co-beneficial progress for their wider communities, populations and countries also at risk.

Participants agreed to step up efforts to position and include displaced children in evidence-based climate policy, action and financing — and establish a coalition of partners, including champion governments, donors and young people, committed to prevent/minimise risks of child displacement and prepare communities and child-critical services. Participants also emphasised the importance of ensuring climate finance flows to the most vulnerable communities and stressed the need to advance the design and implementation of more inclusive approaches through localisation and working both with and for displaced children and young people themselves.

# Building a common vision to prevent and prepare for accelerating child displacement in the context of climate change

#### **Confronting and bridging silos**

Participants identified persistent professional and political silos impeding collective action, which represent a major foundational challenge in our efforts to prevent, respond to and find solutions to internal displacement of children. These include divisions between the climate change, migration and child rights communities of practice; between humanitarian and development approaches; and between government actors and affected communities, including children and young people. The importance of a collaborative multi-sectoral and whole of government approach that prioritises the inclusion of affected communities, including children, was stressed throughout as key to 'building a bridge' across these silos and pave the way forward.

#### Influencing climate change policy

#### Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) on Loss and Damage (L&D)

Despite the heightened impacts and unique vulnerabilities of children in the context of climate change – with children comprising approximately half the displaced population – they are often overlooked in countries' responses to climate change, and in deliberations and guidance emanating from the intergovernmental United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC) process.

Parties to the Paris Agreement have agreed that States should, when taking climate action, respect, promote and consider the rights of children, as well as intergenerational equity. However, this commitment has yet to translate into significant climate policy initiatives or action. Less than half of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are child-sensitive, and just 2.4 per cent of key multilateral climate funds can be classified as supporting child-responsive programmes. This is despite extensive research and decades of programme implementation indicating that investment in children's formative years is more cost-effective than equivalent investments later in life, providing comprehensive, immediate and enduring pathways to addressing wellbeing, community resilience and sustainable societies.

The Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage – including the ExCom Task Force on Displacement – was identified as a critical process for furthering policy and finance solutions targeting most-affected children/communities and provision of essential social services. Both child-inclusive and displacement-sensitive language were included in the decision to operationalise the fund at COP28.

Participants identified opportunities to build on these hooks by engaging with the Santiago network and participation in its sixtieth session (SB60)

preparatory negotiations. Under the <u>outcome of the first global stocktake</u>, Parties requested the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, at SB60, to hold an expert dialogue on children and climate change to discuss the disproportionate impacts of climate change on children and relevant policy solutions in this regard, engaging relevant United Nations entities, international organisations and non-governmental organisations in this effort.

#### Potential next steps:

- Engage <u>board members</u> and foster champions on displacement and children

   including through work with partners (Childrens Environmental child rights
   CERI coalition and World Bank) was identified as a critical advocacy tactic to
   engage in L&D policy as well as the new Loss and Damage Fund.
- Engage with and build on the Taskforce on Displacement's (TFD) priorities to
  ensure displacement and its impacts are accounted for when assessing the
  L&D incurred by climate vulnerable people and in resulting funding decisions
  and arrangements and that displaced people meaningfully participate in
  assessments of climate impacts, in the planning and implementation of
  measures to avert, minimise and address L&D, and in related funding
  decisions.
- Engage in SB60 Expert Dialogue on Disproportionate Impact of Climate Change on Children to strategically position displacement and mobility.

#### **Global Goal on Adaptation**

At COP28, seven thematic targets were established (water and sanitation, health, food, poverty/ social protection, infrastructure, ecosystems, cultural heritage) around the implementation of the Global Goal on Adaptation. There was recognition of the role of education, and children were recognised as a cross-cutting consideration. We now have the chance to embed child-sensitive metrics for climate-resilient social services and child participation as integral elements of global adaptation responses and reporting by Parties. This will also be a critical entry point for anchoring displacement and mobility consideration in adaptation.

#### Potential next steps:

- Contribute to joint National Adaptation Plan (NAP) technical guidelines and support key countries to develop child-centred and displacement-sensitive NAPs.
- Engage in thematic expert group on sectoral adaptation (i.e. social protection, nutrition, health).
- Support the development of indicators (i.e., disaggregation by age, sex and displacement/migration status/ monitoring system development).

 Cost-benefit analysis of social sector adaptation and child/displacementsensitive marker.

#### **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**

During the discussions, participants highlighted that as Parties develop their next generation NDCs throughout 2024, there is an opportunity to support them to be more inclusive and rights-based for children and young people, and ensure child-critical social services are climate resilient and prepared for displacement. This could be through including a focus on sector-based programming, youth-driven campaigns, strategic partnerships, and stories of how young people affected by climate-related displacement are raising climate awareness and participating in advocacy platforms.

#### Potential next steps:

- Develop child-sensitivity marker and checklist for child-centred and displacement-sensitive NDCs.
- Support a target % of countries' national climate plans (the NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPS) to be child- and displacement-sensitive by 2025, using consistent language around targets and common approaches to reporting progress (in IDP pilot countries to deliver on the 'prevention' focus in the SG Action Agenda.)

## **Internal Displacement Policy and Action**

#### The SG Action Agenda on Internal Displacement

Recognising this crisis, and responding to an appeal from 57 States, the Secretary-General (SG) established a High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement at the end of 2019. Over the course of 19 months, the Panel consulted widely and sought out new ways to better prevent and achieve lasting solutions to internal displacement. It presented its <a href="final report">final report</a> on 29 September 2021, with 10 overarching recommendations for improved action.

In June 2022, recognising the internal displacement crisis, the SG launched the <u>SG</u>

<u>Action Agenda on Internal Displacement</u> to 'anchor' the issue within the UN system.

It outlines 31 commitments for the UN system to advance solutions to internal displacement, prevent future displacement crises from emerging, and strengthen the quality of protection and assistance provided to those who are already displaced.

With the Special Adviser on Solutions for Internal Displacement pushing to step up joint efforts to prevent displacement crisis throughout 2024, participants discussed critical opportunities to position children and young people within the global IDP

agenda and how to engage stakeholders outside the humanitarian and development space.

#### Potential next steps:

- Leverage opportunities to engage in the High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP), High Level Process/Events in 2024 and 2025 to include a focus on prevention/preparedness for future displacement.
- Establish a group of champion governments on prevention of internal displacement.
- Create an IDP advisory constituency as part of the UNFCCC/COP building on the new IDP advisory group.

#### **Kampala Declaration**

Participants pointed to the need to build on existing mechanisms and frameworks including the Kampala Ministerial Declaration on Migration, Environment and Climate Change (KDMECC-AFRICA), which outlines 12 commitments by its signatory countries to address the effects of climate change on human mobility in the East and Horn of Africa region. The expansion of the Kampala Declaration has involved strong engagement from African youth and provides a critical entry point to strengthen government systems and services to be prepared for climate-related displacement and mobility of children.

## Preparing and strengthening child-critical systems and services

In order to improve outcomes for children and young people at risk of future displacement and to deliver on the commitments made under the Paris Agreement, Sendai Framework, SDGs, Global Compacts for Migration and Refugees and SG Action Agenda, participants agreed that governments, donors, partners and the private sector should join forces to adapt child-critical services (including education, health, social protection and child protection services) to be shock-responsive, portable and inclusive, including for those already displaced or on the move.

Participants discussed the importance of adapting services in hotspot locations to be resilient to the impacts of climate change and prepared to reach and protect the most vulnerable before, during and after disaster strikes. Designing services and infrastructure based on a displacement risk analysis with flexibility and surge capacity to absorb displaced populations was flagged as critical.

Designing services to be portable and flexible and able to follow children as they move within countries or across borders should also be prioritised. Examples flagged included prioritising portable skills and education certification, and online access to identity documents, health records and other information that enables children to

reunite with family, maintain access to healthcare, continue to learn and stay connected with their communities.

Inclusion was also highlighted as a critical consideration. Poorer children who already face economic disadvantage are more likely to live in hotspot locations and face disproportionate impacts from climatic events. Addressing inequities means setting up systems and capacity for shock-responsive social protection, including cash transfer mechanisms to support children affected by climate shocks, and ensuring equitable access to quality, essential services for all children including those most vulnerable and marginalised due to gender, disability, legal status, and other intersecting factors.

# SPOTLIGHT: Shock-responsive, adaptive and inclusive social protection

Shock-responsive, adaptive and inclusive social protection is one of the key mechanisms that can provide timely and comprehensive support to the most vulnerable and impacted by climate-induced shocks loss and damages.

- It provides a buffer for households to take risk for adapting and diversifying their livelihood systems to the changing climate. This in turn reduces their vulnerability to climate shocks.
- By building resilience of households to climate change, adaptive social
  protection can ensure that households are able to maintain investments in
  human capital when a shock hits without having to migrate in distress.
- If designed in an inclusive manner, migrant and displaced households can be supported as they move and settle in host locations.

Participants also discussed the importance of anticipatory action, disaster risk reduction (DRR), early warning systems and planning for pre-emptive evacuations, as well as managing mobility options, including community relocation, in the context of climate change. The option to move safely, voluntarily and with dignity from weather-related hotspots to cities or across borders can provide opportunities for young people to adapt to a changing climate as they pursue their aspirations and livelihoods and needs to be part of our 'toolbox' of options. Planning for pre-emptive evacuations and relocations ahead of time with and for affected communities is critical – but at the same time can be incredibly complex.

### SPOTLIGHT: Community relocation planning in Fiji

The Standard Operating Procedures for Planned Relocation (SOP) developed in Fiji is one of the most comprehensive national documents in the world, providing detailed instructions and guidance on processes for climate-induced planned relocation. The Fiji Government places high priority in keeping at-risk communities safe and in strengthening their resilience against the impacts of climate change. Protecting children's rights in the context of community relocation can only be achieved if Fijian communities and families are provided with the necessary support and knowledge to capably adapt to the climate crisis.

#### Potential next steps:

• Share/co-create more learning and training materials on 'how to do' child rights and child sensitivity in climate action.

# Child-centred and displacement-sensitive climate finance New Collective Quantified Goal

Central to the discussions was the importance of ensuring financing and resources are mobilised to support policy and action for children displaced in the context of climate change. This included exploring opportunities to influence the New Collective Quantified Goal (a new global climate finance goal to be set "from a floor" of USD 100 billion per year, to take effect post-2025) to be agreed at COP29 - to elevate attention to the need for child-sensitive climate finance.

#### Potential next steps:

- Engage with the negotiators (with special emphasis on the negotiators from the "champion" countries).
- Develop a common position on child-centred and displacement-sensitive climate finance to develop more granular, evidence-based and policy-relevant recommendations.
- Participate in the ninth expert dialogue in Colombia (including a submission to propose the inclusion of displaced children's rights in the dialogue).

#### **Community-based funding**

There was consensus that leveraging existing mechanisms to ensure funding reaches communities that are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change is key. For example, replicating or scaling up successful models to deliver the LDC fund to

communities in Uganda, or the Global Center for Climate Mobility's local funding mechanisms.

# SPOTLIGHT: Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) - scaling and replicating a successful financing model

The LDCF is enabling Least Developed Countries to prepare for a more resilient future. LDCF funding helps recipient countries address their short-, medium-, and long-term resilience needs and reduce climate change vulnerability in priority sectors and ecosystems.

LDCF support helps countries implement <u>National Adaptation Programs of Action</u> (NAPAs) – country-driven strategies for addressing their most urgent adaptation needs. It also supports the implementation of <u>National Adaptation Plans</u> (NAPs), and the Least Developed Countries work programme under the UNFCCC.

The LDCF works with partner agencies to bolster technical and institutional capacity at the national and local level, to create a policy environment that encourages investment in adaptation solutions, to reduce systemic barriers to progress, and to promote innovation and private sector engagement.

#### Potential next steps:

 Document lessons learned from the experiences with disbursing small grants at community level for adaptation / children's benefit and use this evidence to catalyse new/more small grants facilities - disbursing 80% of fund to communities – work with them (part of project design)

#### **Loss and Damage Fund**

The COP and the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) established a fund to assist developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change in responding to the associated economic and non-economic loss and damage. The Fund will be accountable to and function under the guidance of the COP and the CMA; its governance structure is being established throughout 2024. This is a timely opportunity to carve out space for a focus on children / displacement and relocation within the fund.

#### Potential next steps:

- Engaging board members and fostering champions on displacement and children to help shape the new Loss and Damage Fund.
- Establish a dedicated portion of the Loss and Damage Fund that is specifically
  for children (e.g., 25%) and further, mandate a % of money to reach
  communities define 'child-sensitive' criteria that describe eligibility for the
  child-dedicated money.

Participants further discussed the underlying structural barriers/issues in climate architecture that are not being addressed and prevent funding from flowing to where it is needed most. Addressing the challenge of compliance was unpacked and opportunities of innovative financing, forecasting-based financing, climate debt swaps for children and importance of helping investors de-risk were flagged.

# International Financial Institutions (IFIs) – African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank

Participants discussed the opportunity to build on and leverage existing work plans between the Office of the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement and the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) to fund efforts to prevent displacement crises in the context of climate change and minimise risks for children.

#### Potential next steps:

 Explore opportunities to engage with the ADB and AfDB on prevention of internal displacement and child-sensitive solutions.

#### **Climate donorship**

Participants explored the concept of 'good climate donorship' to support engagement with public and private sector donors on climate and children. Good donorship was determined to entail providing financial support to initiatives, projects, or organisations in a transparent, accountable, and ethical manner. It should involve openly communicating funding criteria, ensuring efficient use of funds, adhering to ethical standards, collaborating with stakeholders, empowering recipients, promoting long-term sustainability, and being flexible and adaptable in approach. By adhering to these principles, donors can maximise the positive impact of their contributions and contribute to meaningful social, environmental, and economic outcomes.

#### Potential next steps:

 'Climate donorship' – a research, partnership and action initiative to foster principles/modalities for action/Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) frameworks for climate and development financiers to be more accountable to recipients especially children.

# Harnessing the potential of climate mobility with and for children and young people

#### Youth empowerment

#### Green skills

While the need to prepare young people with the skills and capacities to fill the growing number of green jobs projected worldwide has been recognised by governments and climate and development actors, migrant and displaced young people are being overlooked in current policy discussions and programming efforts related to a green transition. Participants emphasised that displaced children and young people already face unique barriers to accessing education and workforce development opportunities in their host communities, regardless of whether these opportunities are green. For example, only a third of refugees (27% of refugee girls and 36% of refugee boys) are enrolled in secondary school around the world compared with 84% of secondary-age children worldwide, and a mere 3% are in higher education compared with 37% of non-refugees.

In addition, a lack of or unrecognised degrees or certifications, social networks, social protections, legal status, right to work, post-training support and connectivity can further hamper their potential to access employment and contribute to, as well as benefit from, green transitions in their host communities. Participants discussed how targeted policies and programming are needed to ensure displaced children and young people benefit as countries invest more in green transitions.

## **SPOTLIGHT: Youth Agency Market Place (YOMA)**

YOMA is a digital marketplace where youth from under-resourced communities can actively engage in social impact projects and learning and earning opportunities through several integrated functions, such as job matching, mentoring, technical and transferable skills training, experience-based learning and work-based learning opportunities, all of which can be added to a digital CV. YOMA also equips youth with future-based skills through the YOMA digital platform that mitigates against the impacts of climate change while providing opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship. Skills provided through YOMA include data collection and analysis,

technical, digital and vocational skills for environmental evaluation and monitoring. Green YOMA currently has several projects in South Africa, Nigeria, Tanzania, Malawi and Peru, with prospects of project expansions in Ghana and Ivory Coast. To date, more than 250,000 youths have directly benefited from the YOMA digital platform.

#### Participation, inclusivity, voice

Participants pointed to the importance of educating and empowering migrant and displaced children and young people to meaningfully engage in climate policy and action. Providing children with knowledge of climate change and resilience techniques through climate education is critical to enabling children and young people – including those on the move or in hotspot locations – to effectively influence climate policies, budgets and plans. It is particularly important to ensure that children and young people are directly informed about the lived experiences, priorities and knowledge of communities affected by climate change and displacement.

Achieving meaningful participation, inclusivity and voice must extend beyond tokenism, and feature real commitments by key stakeholders to offering opportunities, mechanisms, and spaces for the co-creation and co-implementation of solutions with affected children, young people and their communities. Participants emphasised the importance of ensuring these efforts included the most marginalised and vulnerable groups amongst children and young people, whether as a result of gender, disability, legal status, or other factors.

It was also pointed out that children and young people from indigenous communities are disproportionately vulnerable to the impacts of climate change (including mental health), despite their minimal ecological footprint. Often with strong material and spiritual reliance on their lands, indigenous and pastoralist communities depend on the environment and its resources for their livelihoods. At the same time, young people from Indigenous communities have a deep knowledge of their environment and understanding of appropriate prevention and adaptation measures to climate change and can play a critical role in driving this agenda.

#### Potential next steps:

- Establish a constituency at COP for internally displaced people and those at risk of displacement living in climate-vulnerable locations, including indigenous populations.
- Explore opportunities to anchor diverse and inclusive child and youth participation into the new Loss and Damage Fund architecture.

### Migration as adaptation

A central focus throughout discussions was a clear recognition that children and young people regularly opt for migration as an adaptation strategy, and on ways in which we can harness the potential of climate mobility to improve protection and wellbeing outcomes while mitigating the risks of unsafe movement.

Participants acknowledged that migration can provide opportunities for children and young people to pursue aspirations, diversify their skills and contribute to their new community, and that in the context of the urgent low-carbon transition, there will be significant skills and workforce gaps that the migration of young workers between cities or countries can help fill. Furthermore, supporting the upskilling of young people to fill jobs focused on sustainability can help us move towards a low carbon economy.

To this end, in-depth presentations explored opportunities to equip displaced youth and those living in climate-vulnerable location with green skills, and approaches to improving safe and empowering migration pathways and relocations.

However, participants also acknowledged that there are few public policies that speak to the promotion of migration as adaptation in the context of climate change and that for it to truly contribute to adaptation, it must be carefully managed with all the right precautions in place to protect children's rights.

#### Potential next steps:

• Explore options for youth-led research migration as adaptation for children and young people.

## Data, evidence and advocacy

#### **Data and evidence**

Improving the collective evidence base supporting action through better data, research and analysis was identified as a core component to moving our joint priorities going forward. Strengthening data systems and governance architectures to plan for, track and monitor climate-related displacement of children and leveraging innovative technologies to help predict and simulate disasters were highlighted by several participants. Where possible, data should be disaggregated by age, sex, location, ethnicity, household income and other key social and demographic variables to inform more targeted and effective investment and interventions by governments, humanitarian and development partners.

The need to make better use of existing data, and avoid duplication, redundancy, and generation of 'evidence for evidence's sake' came through strongly in the discussions.

The importance of better understanding evidence end-users and ensuring meaningful participation of affected populations in data collection, research and knowledge partnerships is also essential, in order to involve communities as co-creators, equipping them with skills to create their own research, communicate evidence with impact, and tell their own stories. Several of the youth participants flagged, in particular, the need for more research into migration as adaptation, and learning from case studies of maladaptation, to inform programming and policy. There was also consensus on the need for multi-disciplinary research collaboration, more commitments to implement science-led research and evaluations on 'what works' in terms of promising and potential scalable interventions, and the potential for informing anticipatory action through foresight methodologies.

#### Potential next steps:

- Explore the opportunity to include a section on child displacement in the next IPCC.
- Explore the possibility of a a multi-disciplinary study integrating geospatial mapping, data layers showing relative deprivation index (children) and climate hazard exposure, to identify and show 'hotspots', and complementary case study research on examples of climate migration as adaptation and maladaptation.
- Expand opportunities for meaningful, inclusive participatory research
  approaches and opportunities for knowledge partnerships with children,
  young people and their families impacted by climate change-induced
  migration.

# A compelling narrative – "lives, livelihoods and futures at stake"

In-depth discussions throughout the event stressed the importance of having a strong narrative to cut through the politics and to position displaced children and young people within climate action, policy and finance. This entails balancing the need to recognise the complexity of the issue, while ensuring a clear shared message. Including and amplifying the voices and stories of young people affected was identified as a priority – a narrative that centers on the experiences and voices of children and young people displaced by climate change is essential for raising awareness, mobilising support, and driving meaningful action to address this pressing challenge. Further, by showcasing the interconnectedness of climate impacts across borders and emphasising the global responsibility to protect vulnerable populations, a strong narrative could contribute to building momentum for collective action.

Participants also flagged the need for bravery to confront the issue of fossil fuel, despite the political implications.

A red thread throughout the discussions was that children are more than just another vulnerable group. If solutions don't work for children, stakeholders are failing half the IDP population. Children are spending their entire childhoods in displacement, while they are still developing, with huge ramifications for their adult lives and future generations. Solutions that work for children, work for everyone – interventions that support children's well-being yield long-term economic benefits for society. Research consistently shows that every dollar invested during childhood yields a high return on investment in terms of improved educational outcomes, higher earning potential, and reduced social welfare costs over the lifespan of individuals.

#### Potential next steps:

• Develop a shared narrative to underpin joint advocacy going forward.

### **Summary of Recommendations**

#### **Loss and Damage**

- Engage board members and foster champions on displacement and children
   including through work with partners (child rights CERI coalition and World
  Bank).
- Engage with and build on TFD priorities to position children and young people.
- Engage in SB60 Expert Dialogue on Disproportionate Impact of Climate Change on Children to strategically position displacement and mobility.

#### **Global Goal on Adaptation**

- Contribute to joint National Adaptation Plan technical guidelines and support key countries to develop child-centred and displacement-sensitive NAPs.
- Engage in thematic expert group on sectoral adaptation (i.e., social protection, nutrition, health).
- Support the development of indicators (i.e., disaggregation by age, sex and displacement/migration status/ monitoring system development).
- Cost-benefit analysis of social sector adaptation and child/displacementsensitive marker.

#### **NDCs**

- Develop child-sensitivity marker and checklist for child-centred and displacement-sensitive NDCs.
- Support a target % of countries' national climate plans (the NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPS) to be child- and displacement-sensitive by 2025, using consistent language around targets and common approaches to reporting progress (in IDP pilot countries to deliver on the 'prevention' focus in the SG Action Agenda.)

#### **SG Action Agenda on Internal Displacement**

- Leverage opportunities to engage in the High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP), High Level Process/Events in 2024 and 2025 to include a focus on prevention/preparedness for future displacement.
- Establish a group of champion governments on prevention of internal displacement.
- Create an IDP advisory constituency as part of the UNFCCC/COP building on the new IDP advisory group.

#### Preparing and strengthening child-critical systems and services

• Share/co-create learning and training materials on 'how to do' child rights and child sensitivity in climate action.

#### **New Collective Quantified Goal**

- Engage with the negotiators (with special emphasis on the negotiators from the "champion" countries).
- Develop a common position on child-centred and displacement-sensitive climate finance to develop more granular, evidence-based and policy-relevant recommendations.
- Participate in the ninth expert dialogue in Colombia (including a submission to propose the inclusion of displaced children's rights in the dialogue).

#### **Community-based funding**

 Document lessons learned from the experiences with disbursing small grants at community level for adaptation / children's benefit and use this evidence to catalyse new/more small grants facilities - disbursing 80% of fund to communities – work with them (part of project design)

#### **Loss and Damage Fund**

- Engaging <u>board members</u> and fostering champions on displacement and children to help shape the new Loss and Damage Fund.
- Establish a dedicated portion of the Loss and Damage Fund that is specifically for children (e.g., 25%) and *further*, mandate a % of money to reach communities - define 'child-sensitive' criteria that describe eligibility for the child-dedicated money.

#### **IFIs**

 Explore opportunities to engage with the ADB and AfDB on prevention of internal displacement and child-sensitive solutions.

#### **Climate donorship**

 'Climate donorship' – a research, partnership and action initiative to foster principles/modalities for action/MEL frameworks for climate and development financiers to be more accountable to recipients especially children.

#### Youth empowerment

- Establish a constituency at COP for internally displaced people and those at risk of displacement living in climate-vulnerable locations, including indigenous populations.
- Explore opportunities to anchor diverse and inclusive child and youth participation into the new Loss and Damage Fund architecture.

#### Migration as adaptation

• Explore options for youth-led research migration as adaptation for children and young people.

#### **Data and evidence**

- Explore opportunity to include a section on child displacement in the next IPCC.
- Explore the possibility of a Columbia University study geospatial mapping, overlaying of data layers showing relative deprivation index (children), climate hazard exposure, to identify and show 'hotspots'.

Expand opportunities for meaningful, inclusive participatory research
approaches and opportunities for knowledge partnerships with children,
young people and their families impacted by climate change-induced
migration.

#### **Compelling narrative**

• Develop a shared narrative to underpin joint advocacy going forward.

#### **Laura Healy and Josiah Kaplan**

Wilton Park | May 2024

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