

Linkages among Climate Change, Disasters, Conflicts and Population Displacement

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**Expert Group Meeting on the sustainable development impacts of
conflicts, climate change, disasters, and population displacement**

UN Headquarters

20 February 2019

Objectives of Policy (ideally)

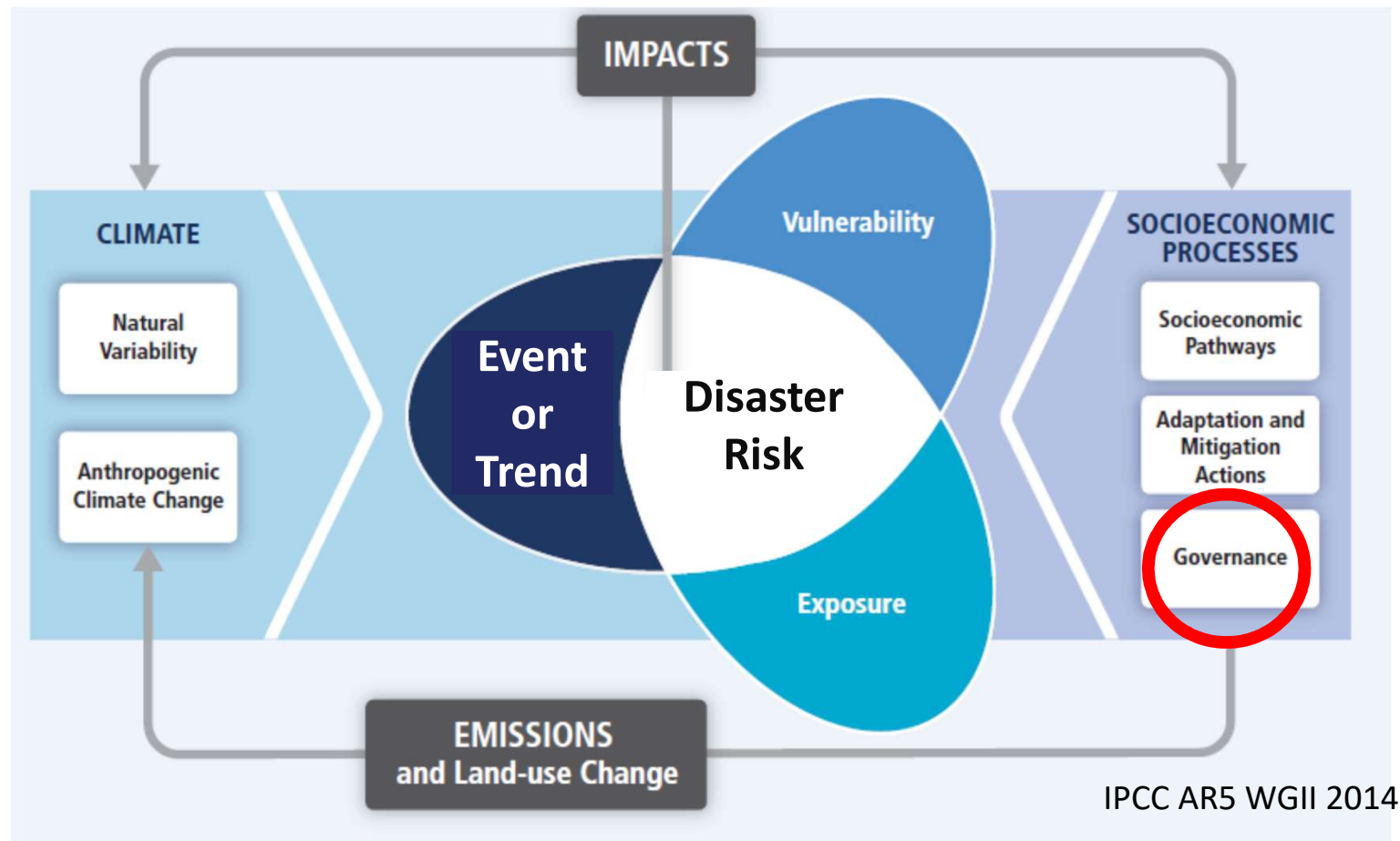
- Reduce displacement and violent conflict
- Facilitate migration where overall benefits could accrue to migrants, to source regions, to receiving regions
- Improve conditions for receiving regions, sources regions, those stranded
- Otherwise, make it easier to stay in place

Larger Objectives for Experts

- **Ability to predict the where and when of climate-related migration and conflict**
- **Make useful contributions to policies toward**
 - >>>migrants/displaced persons**
 - >>>conflict minimization**
 - >>>sustainable development, SGD attainment**

Components of Climate-related Disaster

Climate or Climate Change?



Sea Level Rise Exposure Model – direct and indirect

(LECZ=10m elevation, low and high population growth)

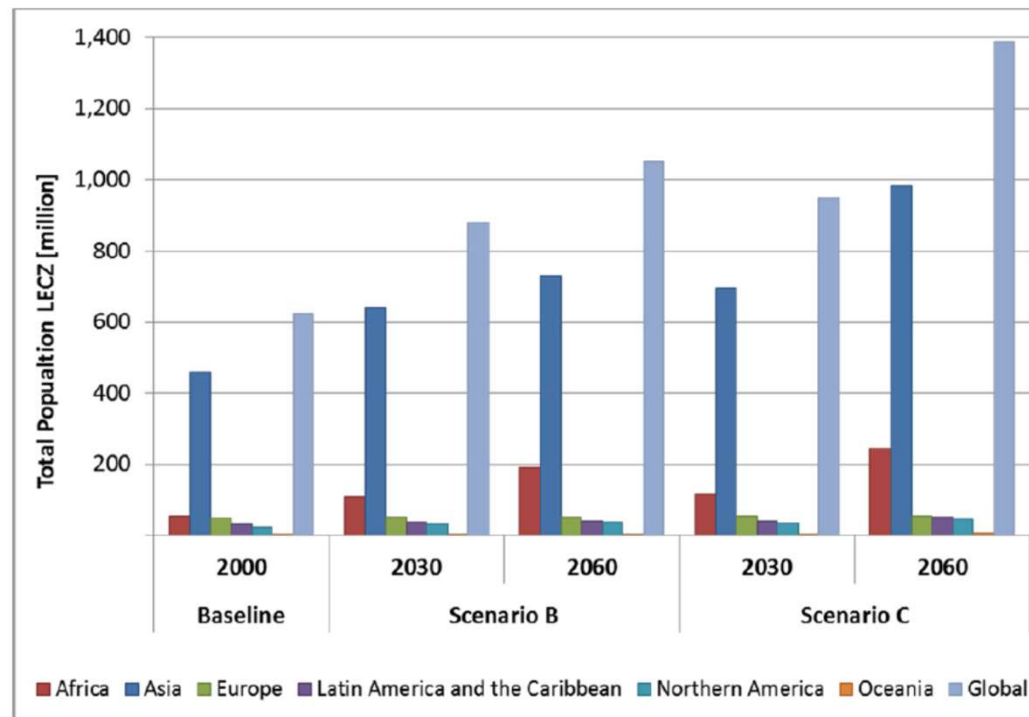


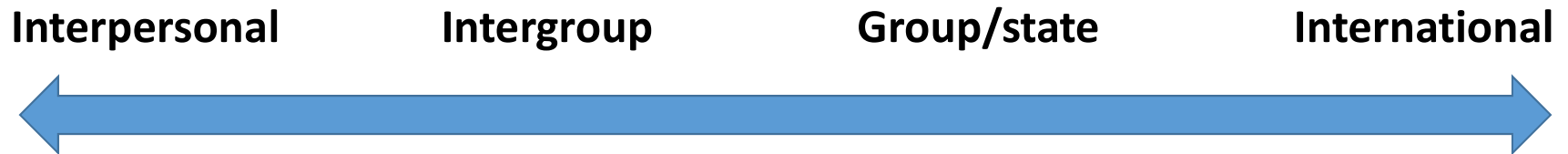
Fig 2. LECZ population in the year 2000 and projections for 2030/2060 per continent, scenarios A-D.

How many times per century the current “100-year flood” will occur in 2050, 2100 (“AF”)

	2050			2100			2150		
	1.5°C AF	2.0°C AF	2.5°C AF	1.5°C AF	2.0°C AF	2.5°C AF	1.5°C AF	2.0°C AF	2.5°C AF
NYC	2.6	2.8	3.1	138.1	245.3	254.9	975.7	2462.9	1579.0
Charleston, OR	20.9	27.1	33.4	721.4	935.4	1392.4	3393.5	5374.5	4857.0
Christmas Isl.	924.8	1618.7	1555.5	12459.3	13772.5	14252.7	14788.1	15910.8	16184.2
Majuro, Marshal Isl.	846.8	1094.9	1040.5	9454.3	11645.9	12657.3	13756.1	15316.8	15610.8

Rasmussen et al 2018

Conflict and Climate



Direct Motivations:

- Economic – necessity, greed
- Political
- Non-Rationale – rage, hate
- “Too hot, Too dry”

**Climate as
direct and
indirect
driver,
channels
unclear**

Population Displacement, Migration and Climate



Explicit Motivations:

- Safety/Conflict
- Economic
- Political
- Cultural
- Climate Event or Trend?

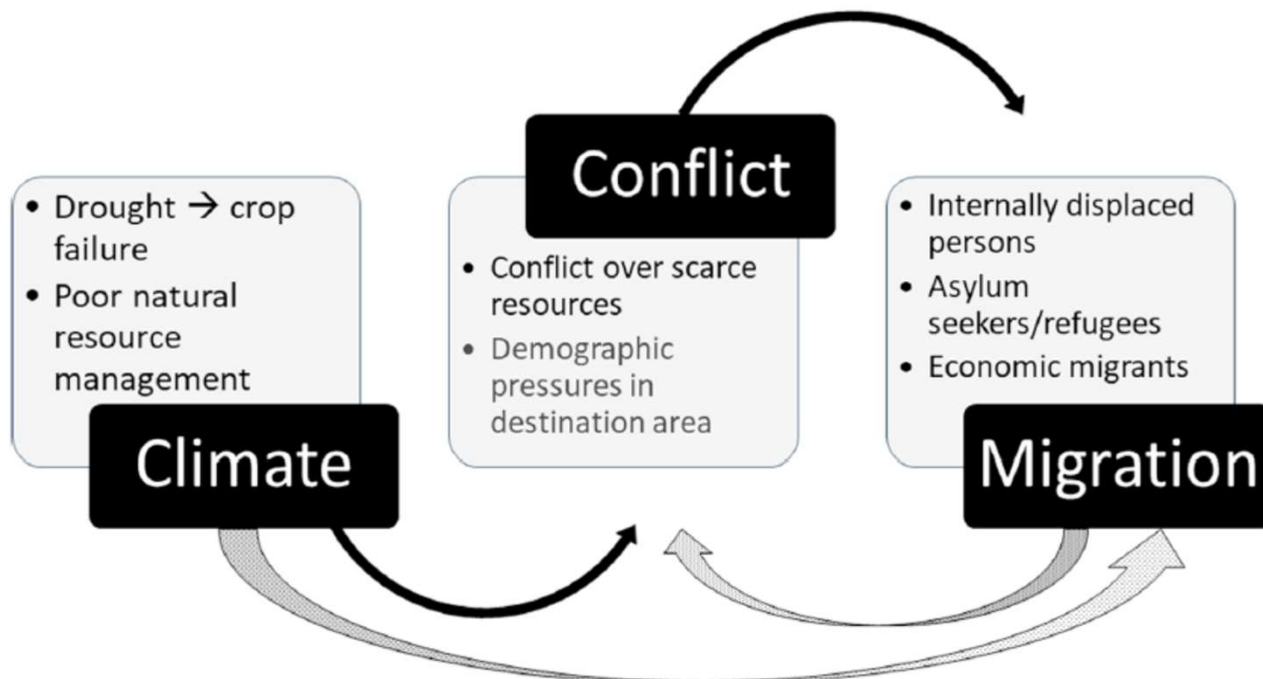
Characteristics:

- Household vs individual
- Economic – remittances?
- Temporary vs permanent
- Short vs long distance
- Internal vs international

**Climate as
direct and
indirect driver,
some channels
clear**

A Schematic Diagram of Relationships

Direction of causation?



Abel et al, GEC, 2019

Larger Context

- **Development and Urbanization**
- **Moving from exposure to one climate danger to another**
- **Role of existing networks**

Specific Objectives for Experts

- Focus on causes, channels, drivers but also *outcomes* for
 - >>>migrants/displaced persons
 - >>>source regions
 - >>>receiving regions

Outcomes not much studied in the climate context

**Are climate-related disasters, migration,
conflict unique?**