

People moved and will move again

François Gemenne¹, Florence de Longueville², Luka De Bruyckere¹, Caroline Zickgraf¹, Sara Vigil¹,
Nakia Pearson¹, Dalila Gharbaoui¹, Pierre Ozer^{1,3}

¹ Hugo Observatory, Université de Liège, Belgium, f.gemenne@ulg.ac.be

² Département de Géographie, Université de Namur, Belgium

³ Département des Sciences et Gestion de l'Environnement, Université de Liège, Belgium

Compiling several case studies in different developing countries, we arrive at some 'general trends' on the links between climate / environmental change and migration / displacement of populations. A series of complementary posters exemplify this assessment. Below, we show – from an example in Nouakchott, Mauritania – how fast migration can occur – and be mostly permanent – even with a tiny rainfall perturbation.

(i) No direct relationship between the scale of climate impacts and migration impacts

- Small perturbations can have big effects on migration
- Big changes do not always mean big effects on migration
- Do not assume climate hotspots are migration hotspots
- Small and big quantitative migratory outcomes can be big in terms of permanence or temporality

(ii) Climate change at 2°C, 4°C or 6°C will make migration different (not just about scale)

- Non-linear changes
- Immobility

(iii) Climate tipping points do not equal migration tipping points

- Perceptions about climate change can alter migration responses
- What is the lag time between perceptions and intentions? Between intentions and actions?

(iv) The conjuncture of social inhabitability and climate inhabitability:

- Resilience
- Maladaptation

