Migration, climate change and human habitation post 2015 – an African perspective



WUN - Hong Kong

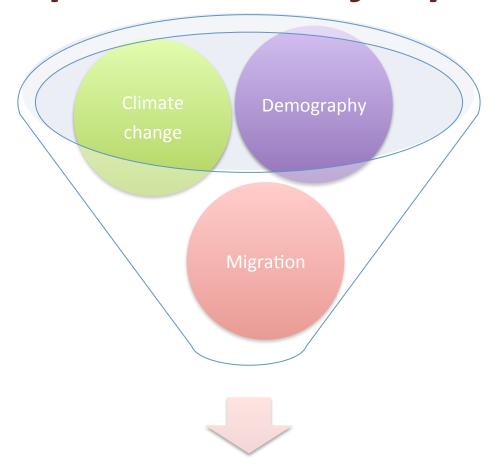
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Drawing crude climate / migration links is unhelpful (for Africa) in locating the issues of migration in the post 2015 development agenda



Revisit the Climate, Migration and Development Nexus for post 2015



Cities are a hot spot of the interface between migration, climate, demography, the economy, human consumption of ecosystem services and the built environment

In 2010/1 in an effort to address the risk interface of climate & human settlement Foresight UK asked: what risk does climate change induced migration in Africa imply?

| | Mobility | Displacement | Urban |
|---------------------------------------|----------|--------------|--------|
| | | | Growth |
| Technical or Managerial Challenges | M1: | D1: | U1: |
| Political Challenges | M2: | D2: | U2: |

What does the science say about climate as an African migration trigger?

- Africa has a variety of climates across a range of regions, from humid tropics to the very arid Sahara
- Climate changes are of sufficient magnitude, if not predictability, to trigger altered human responses that include shifts in agricultural production and forced migrations in response to natural disasters
- Insufficient detail to make local scale predictions of how or where GEC might drive migratory movements
- Very few regional to sub-regional climate change scenarios using regional climate models or empirical downscaling constructed in Africa

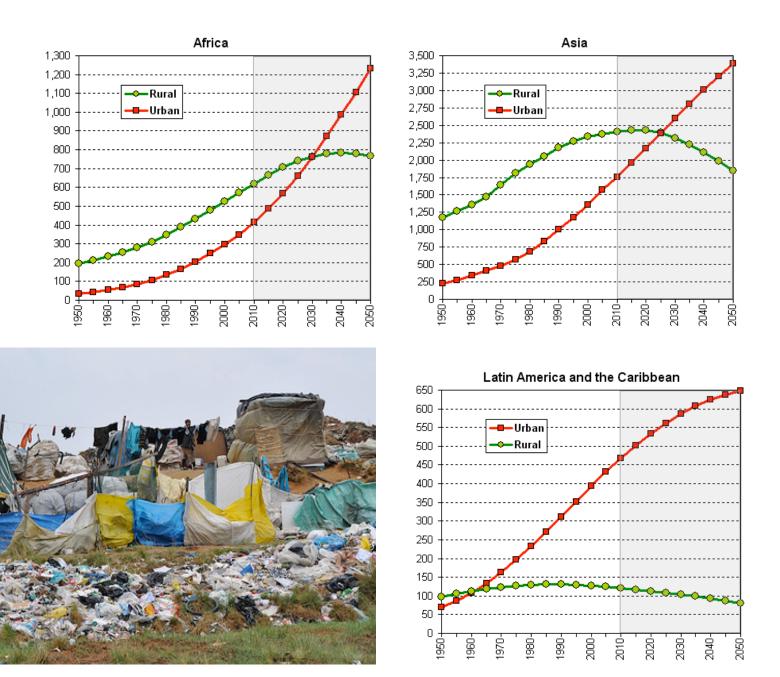


Africa's population is large (965 million in 2007) and growing fast (3.3%p.a) Urbanization is the key overall trend

Consensus – the data is poor and extreme caution is necessary

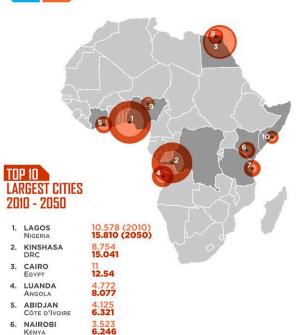
| | % Urban, 2007 | Ave Annual Urbanization rate 2005-10 | Ave annual pop growth rate 2005-10 |
|--------------------------|---------------|--|--|
| North Africa | 50.92 | 2.40 | 2.40 |
| West & Central Africa | 41.75 | 4.02 | 4.03 |
| East Africa | 20.48 | 4.05 | 3.92 |
| Southern Africa | 45.60 | 2.56 | 1.47 |
| Africa | 38.70 | 3.31 | 3.31 |





Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division: World Urbanization Prospects, the 2009 Revision. New York, 2010





KENYA

EGYPT

NIGERIA

10. ADDIS ABABA

Етніоріа

9. KANO

TANZANIA

ALEXANDRIA

7. DAR ES SALAAM 3.349

6.202

5.648

3.395 **5.06**

2.930 **4.757**

(UNIT: MILLIONS OF PEOPLE)

TOP 10 POPULATION SIZE **INCREASE BY 2050** KINSHASA 6.287 DRC 2. LAGOS 5.232 NIGERIA 3. LUANDA 3.305 ANGOLA 4. DAR ES SALAAM 2.853 TANZANIA 5. NAIROBI 2.723 KENYA 6. OUAGADOUGOU 2.423 BURKINA FASO 7. ABIDJAN 2.196 CÔTE D'IVOIRE 8. ADDIS ABABA 1.827 Етніоріа 9. KANO 1.665 NIGERIA 10. KAMPALA 1.600 UGANDA

(UNIT: MILLIONS OF PEOPLE)



Mobility

Technical or Managerial Challenges (M1)

- Much migration is 'routine'
 - it may involve significant changes to the distribution of populations consuming services
 - Note gradual movement out of drylands

Political Challenges (M2)

gradual shifts resulting spatial distribution, or specific characteristics of migrants can raise political issues, esp across international boundaries

- highly concentrated on one location,
- occurs outside legal frameworks,
- involves a concentration of people with specific 'service' needs (e.g. children)
- To an ecological vulnerable place

Displacement

Technical or Managerial Challenges (D1)

- rapid, forced environmental displacement often requires an emergency response
 - in the form of food, shelter,
 water or healthcare
 - or built and natural environmental restoration

Political Challenges (D2)

- Environmentally induced cross border, long-term or permanent displacement may need legal or other protection
- e.g. Niger, Somalia or Zimbabwe

Urban Growth

Technical or Managerial Challenges (U1)

imperative for national and local capacity to ensure that urban ecological resilience is maintained and that basic environmental health and human rights are upheld for growing cities and towns

GEC means specialised interventions in coastal cities and mega cities

Political Challenges (U2)

in urban locations that are ecologically sensitive or subjected to extreme environmental events political unrest is probable

- the intra-urban migration associated with environmental change will need to be considered as a driver of political change
- in megacity regions
 populations exposed to
 environmental hazard could
 be large or have political
 power

A summary of the science

- predicted GEC adds a further variable into an already unstable context and that as a result African migration and urbanisation, already rapid, could well escalate
- difficult to use the peer reviewed academic scholarship as a basis for predicting a singular impact of GEC on urbanisation and migration
- the absence of detailed forecasts of GEC for Africa and the lack of consensus about the drivers of migration and urbanisation makes it very difficult to offer any robust views on how mobility displacement might be interpreted

Policy Highlights & Implications

Global environmental change in Africa implies increased human migration and displacement, but the potential impacts and risks have been overstated.

Migration is less important than natural urban population growth for Africa's future, with or without environmental change.

The vulnerability of African cities means GEC is likely to have significant consequences for poorly managed urban areas.

Taking demographic evidence seriously means redirecting research and policy from migration to the interface between GEC and urban areas.

Climate & habitation – competing agendas

| Urban bias | Circular migration | Urban growth |
|---|--|---|
| Analysis Rural poverty most extreme | Analysis Poverty causes people to move between town and countryside vs split livelihoods causes poverty | Analysis Cities are the key sites of new poverty Cities offer the best possibilities for overall poverty mitigation |
| Policy responses: • Rural/agricultural development • Protect the peasantry • Equalize rural/urban service levels • Prevent urbanisation • Mitigate climate risk in rural areas especially viz agricultural | Policy responses: Facilitate movement and split liveihood strategies Don't force the poor to hold 2 bases Climate forecasting & short term safety nets to reduce vulnerability of subsistence farmers | Policy responses: •Improve urban planning and governance •Introduce urban welfare regimes •End urban bias and influx controls •Manage urban climate risksIPPC |

IPCC AR5 CH 8: Highlights for (African) cities

- Climate changes increasingly impact cities (esp. health, infrastructure and economic costs)
- Action in urban areas is essential to address CC
- Cooperative multi level governance is important for effective CC action, but local government is the cornerstone of any CC adaptation action
- Adaptation that delivers mitigation is a powerful, resource efficient strategy
- Well governed cities with universal infrastructure and services have a strong base for building resilience

MARCH 2015 – Sendai Agreement 7 (migration blind?) global targets for a post 2015 agenda

- a substantial reduction in global disaster mortality;
- a substantial reduction in numbers of affected people;
- a reduction in economic losses in relation to global GDP;
- substantial reduction in disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, including health and education facilities;
- an increase in the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020;
- enhanced international cooperation;
- and increased access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments.

 UN ISDR is also supporting ISO ISO 37120 standard for resilient and sustainable cities

Sustainable Development Goals

#UrbanSDG



SDG 11 – a new focus for global development – a stand alone urban goal...to be refined by Habitat 111 agenda

"Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable"

Mainstreaming Migration Post 2015

Global Policy

Look beyond narrow 'migration platforms' to make global development impact

- Sendai March 2015
- Paris COP June 2015
- SDGs Sept 2015
- UN Development Data Debates (migration implications of linking statistical and geospatial data)
- Habitat 111- Sept 2016

Global Science

Influence the global science and science funding arena

- Future Earth
- Belmont group



THANK YOU

