Environmental and climate mobility in South America

FACT SHEET: ARGENTINA

JUNE 2023

IOM UN MIGRATION

HAZARDS & IMPACT

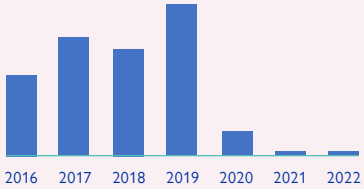
It is estimated that the number of extreme rainfall events in the country has tripled since 1980, (World Bank, 2021). Floods and water pollution appear as impacts of environmental change in some regions, such as the Argentine Northwest causing "an increase in internal migrations" (Argentina MAyDS, 2020). Likewise, the country presents an "increase in periods of extreme drought with animal mortality that damages livestock producers (especially small producers), (and) favorable conditions for the development of fires causing damage to native forests, wildlife and wild flora" (Ibidem).

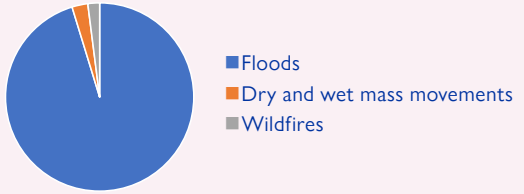
Desertification constitutes a considerable challenge: drylands with varying degrees of exposure to desertification represent about 55% of the country's surface, contain 50% of agricultural production and host one-third of the national population (Torres et al., 2015).

According to the Global Risk Index 2022, the country has a very high level of risk to disasters due its high degree of exposure and challenges to counteract extreme environmental events, ranking 32nd out of 192 countries analyzed.

Between 2016 and 2022, there have been 74,000 internal displacements due to disasters with 94.5% due to floods, 2.7% due to dry mass movement and wet mass movement, and 2% due to wildfires (IDMC, 2023).

NEW INTERNAL DISPLACEMENTS DUE TO DISASTERS (2016-2022)





74K Internal Displacements | **87** Reported Events

Source: IDMC, 2023

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NATIONAL FRAMEWORKS AND COMMITMENTS THAT HAVE INTEGRATED THE TOPIC

National Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Plan (2022). Establishes measures linked to the deepening of research lines, both quantitative and qualitative, associated with climate mobility.

Second Nationally Determined Contribution (2020). Recognizes that the climate commitment assumed by the country must accompany the processes of poverty eradication, promoting a just transition towards a comprehensive and sustainable development that ensures that no one is left behind. "Comprehensive climate action will only be possible if it contemplates human rights, considering the differential impacts of climate change on different groups, including migrants."

Law on Minimum Budgets for Adaptation and Mitigation to Global Climate Change (2019). Provides that the "National Plan for Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change" aims, among others, to "re-evaluate current plans to increase the robustness of infrastructure designs and long-term investments, including population growth and potential environmental migrants projections."

National Disaster Risk Reduction Plan 2018-2023. Requests provincial authorities to maintain evacuation centers and design relocation plans in the face of hydro-meteorological, technological, volcanic, seismic, fire and seismic hazards. It also calls for the provincial commitment to control the settlement of populations in vulnerable areas and relocate those already existing in such areas".

Migration Law No. 25.871, its Article 24 paragraph h) establishes a subcategory of transitory residence for "Special" reasons. Within this framework, two humanitarian visas have recently been issued for displacement due to disasters (Provision 891/2022 and 2641/2022).

IOM'S WORK IN ADDRESSING ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE MOBILITY IN ARGENTINA

Production of evidence on human mobility in the context of environmental degradation, climate change and disasters: IOM works to improve the evidence base on migration, environment and climate change regionally and in a country level through the project "Strengthening the evidence base on migration, environment and climate change to improve IOM's work in South America (2023 - 2024)".

Technical support in the development of adaptation and environmental mobility management plans: IOM provided technical assistance in the design process of two humanitarian disaster visas (Provision 891/2022 and 2641/2022). It also supports the government in the management of environmental mobility linked to water insecurity in cross – border areas of the La Plata Basin, through the implementation of the aforementioned project.

Capacity building for better governance of environmental mobility: IOM strengthens the government's capacity to respond to environmental and climate mobility by promoting multi-stakeholder dialogues.

Advocacy for the comprehensive inclusion of human mobility in national frameworks of the global climate agenda: IOM develops awareness-raising actions and knowledge production for advocacy on the road to COP27, and published a special issue dedicated to human mobility and climate change in the "Revista Migraciones Internacionales. Reflections from Argentina".

MILESTONES 2023 (REGIONAL AND GLOBAL AGENDA)

1st & 2nd round of the Working Network on Migration, Environment, Disasters and Climate Change of the South American Conference on Migration, SACM	Meeting of the South American Conference on Migration, SACM	Forum of Environment Ministers 2023	Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week	COP28
May 19 and August	September 7 and 8	October 23 - 25	October 23 - 27	30 November - 12 December

MiRAC MIGRATION RESSOURCE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

This fact sheet has been developed in the framework of the regional project "Strengthening the evidence base on migration, environment and climate change in South America", with the support of IOM's Migration Resource Allocation Committee (MIRAC), 2023 - 2024.

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