

## Environmental and climate mobility in South America

FACT SHEET: URUGUAY JUNE 2023



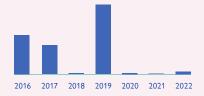
#### **HAZARDS & IMPACT**

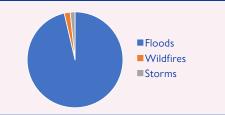
Uruguay recorded 45,000 new internal displacements due to disasters between 2016 and 2022 (IDMC, 2023). The majority are linked to floods (95.6%), but there were also instances of wildfires (2%) and storms (1.6%). Floods evacuations represent the most prominent example of environmental mobility in the country. In 2019 alone, the Comprehensive Monitor of Risks and Affectations recorded 21 adverse events at the national level, affecting 25,477 people (SACM, 2022).

In addition to floods and increased average precipitation, Uruguay is predicted to face several environmental hazards, including droughts, cold and heat waves, extreme winds, coastal erosion,

and sea level rise (SACM, 2022). These phenomena have caused significant damage in recent years and are expected to increase in frequency and intensity. These extreme events could have a negative impact on agricultural production and the tourism sector, which are crucial activities for the country's economy, and could result in internal migration processes (SACM, 2022). Moreover, the prolonged drought has led to one of the worst water deficits in the country, posing challenges to the water supply for the population's consumption (Uruguay Presidency, 2023).

### NEW INTERNAL DISPLACEMENTS DUE TO DISASTERS (2016 - 2022)





45K Internal Displacements

**30** Reported Events

Source: IDMC, 2023







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## NATIONAL FRAMEWORKS AND COMMITMENTS THAT HAVE INTEGRATED THE TOPIC

Second Nationally Determined Contribution (2022) establishes to advance in the understanding of climate mobility and its impact as one of the key actions. By 2030, the goal is to have a database that reports on the

influence and impact of climate change on migration and human displacement to, from, and within Uruguay.

The National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change in Cities and Infrastructure (2021) includes provisions for addressing displacement due to adverse effects of climate change. It also recognizes the differentiated vulnerability of migrants in adaptation within cities and emphasizes the need to strengthen public policies for the relocation of populations living in areas unsuitable for human settlements.

The National Policy for Comprehensive Emergency and Disaster Risk Management in Uruguay 2019-2030 considers population displacement due to floods and includes migrant population in the risk and emergency management planning.

The First Nationally Determined Contribution (2017) promotes the generation of geo-referenced information on social vulnerability associated with adverse climate events with a focus on incorporating migrants among other groups.

The National Environmental Plan aims to achieve a 50% reduction in the population at risk.

# IOM ACTIONS TO ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE MOBILITY IN URUGUAY



Capacity building for better governance of environmental migration: IOM strengthens the government's capacity to respond to environmental and climate mobility by promoting multi-stakeholder dialogues , with the participation of government sectors such as the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Public Health, National Emergency System, National Institute of Statistics, Uruguayan Institute of Meteorology, National Migration Board, Departmental Governments, among others.



Production of evidence on migration in contexts of environmental degradation, climate change and disasters: Through the implementation of the project "Strengthening the evidence base on migration, environment and climate change to improve IOM's work in South America" (2023 - 2024), IOM aims to contribute to improving the information available on migration, environment and climate change regionally and in the country.



Technical support in the development of adaptation plans and management of environmental mobility: IOM collaborates with the government in the management of environmental mobility linked to water insecurity in transboundary areas of the La Plata Basin through a study on water insecurity and migration with a gender approach in the region (2023-2024).

#### **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



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.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: ROBUENOSAIRES.IOM.INT/EN/MIGRATION-AND-CLIMATE-CHANGE | CONTACT INFORMATION: IOMMONTEVIDEO@IOM.INT

