18 Human Mobility Response to Natural Disasters and Environmental Change

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Introduction

Every year, a large number of people in the world migrate from a place to another place involuntarily due to natural disasters such as floods, droughts, landslides, cyclones, earthquakes, tsunami, etc. Most of the disasters destroy natural rhythm of human lives, abolishing shelters and property and finally causing human displacement. At present, climate change-related natural disasters such as precipitation extremes, sea level changes, droughts, etc. generate enormous pressure on livelihoods and access to food and water, which may force the victims to take decisions to move to more sustainable living environments. Additionally, anthropogenic climate change is highly influencing human migration and other forms of people moving to manage the disaster risk (International Organization for Migration, IOM, 2020). However, the mechanism of the disaster-induced migration is very complex. In most of the cases, it is very difficult to understand the most significant environment-related pull factors that determined the migration because not only physical or environmental factors but also socioeconomic, political, and cultural factors contributed with environmental factors to determine the people's intention to move in one place or another. These aspects of sociocultural factors are difficult to measure and understand although these factors mainly lead to the creation of human pressure about the disaster migration. Due to those reasons, different types of disaster-induced migration can be seen in the world such as planned migration, travel and relocation, government-forced resettlements, displacements, etc. The common migration patterns in the world are travel and relocation, resettlements, and displacements. Therefore, disaster-induced migration can be identified as a form of environmental adaptation and management of disaster risk in the world.

In the present world, climate change-related natural disasters are one of the biggest challenges for human societies. Mbaye and Zimmermann (2015) pointed out that although environmental disasters are mostly considered as an important driver of migration in today's world, it is not new and has probably existed since the beginning of human history. Today a huge population than ever can be seen in the world and according to the 2015 world statistics, the number of international migrants will exceed 244 million due to many reasons. However, the push factor of the majority of migrants was different kind of disasters. Natural disasters are less predictable, and early assessment of disaster's magnitude is also quite challenging. Also, predicting its impact on migration is difficult because the social, economic, political, and environmental factors underlying

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