

# Reflecting Development Considerations for Those Displaced:

Intersections of the WDR 2023 and the Research on Forced Migration

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## Insights from the World Development Report 2023

Research on Evolving Humanitarian Action for Forced Migration

Question we should continue to ask

# 1. Migration as a process, a tool for development

Migration has proved to be a powerful force for development, improving the lives of hundreds of millions of migrants, their families, and the societies in which they live across the world. But there are challenges as well—for migrants, their countries of origin, and their countries of destination  
(WDR 2023, Overview)

- The terms migration and displacement should be understood as processes, conditions, and categories in establishing the migration-displacement nexus (Bakewell, 2011).
- Migration and displacement are social processes that change people's physical locations, resulting in different economic, social, and political relationships.
- As processes, they involve different levels of agency, rationales for migration, timescale, degree of change, the extent of migration, and level of institutional engagement (ibid: 20).
- Despite these differences in the process, displacement can be viewed as a subset of the larger migration concept, that rather than highlighting differences, there are also areas of commonality.

Bakewell, O. (2011) 'Conceptualising Displacement and Migration: Processes, Conditions, and Categories,' in Koser, K. and Martin, S.F. (eds) *The Migration - Displacement Nexus: Patterns, Processes, and Policies*. New York: Berghahn Books, pp. 14–28.

## 2. The Match and Motive Framework : Negotiating economic gains and human rights

	Economic migrants	Refugees and other populations of concerns
Lenses in understanding migration patterns	Labor economics	International Law
Primary motives	Economic gains	Upholding human rights
Applicability of the capability approach	Yes	No
Role and commitment of the country of origin	Yes	Not necessarily available

# 3. Weak matches: Moving from Humanitarian Action to Development Approach

- The expansion in the international community's population of concern has broadened the contexts beyond situations of violence and persecution but includes other triggers like climate change and other natural hazards. Recent years also affirmed that not all people in displacement could avail of the durable solutions of either return, resettlement, or integration, thereby creating more people in the condition of protracted displacement.
- Humanitarians are commonly engaged with short-term assistance to meet the immediate needs of forced displacement, often not equipped with long-term assistance like protracted displacement and durable solutions. Thus, considering the development approach as a feature of humanitarian assistance is imperative (See Harlid, 2016).
- Long term and yet temporary displacement demands more than humanitarian response but also developmental aid.



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Question we should continue to ask



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In today's world, various crises threaten people's survival, livelihoods, and dignity. These include armed conflicts, large-scale natural disasters, outbreaks of infectious diseases, and transnational crimes. There are many underlying causes of these crises—such as poverty, discrimination, inequality and climate change—requiring the international community to think and act innovatively and dynamically.

From the perspective of realizing human security and sustaining peace in the face of imminent threats, we attempt to analyze the factors behind these crises in a more systematic way and explore effective approaches to address them through comparative studies of initiatives taken by diverse actors engaged in humanitarian support, sustainable development, and sustaining peace.

Research Project (Ongoing) ↓

Past Research Projects ↓

## Research Project (Ongoing)

### Research on the Evolving Humanitarian Action for Forced Migration

Recent humanitarian crises triggered by disasters and environmental degradation, conflicts and instability, poverty, and the COVID-19 pandemic have all featured the forced movement of large numbers of people. The...

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### Research on Resilience, Peacebuilding, and Preventing Violent Extremism: A Complex Systems Perspective on Sustaining Peace

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### Human Security and the Practices of Empowerment in East Asia

Since its introduction in the Human Development Report by the United Nations Development Programme



8 MARCH 2022 - BANGLADESH

### ONE CHILD KILLED AND 1,000 CHILDREN LEFT HOMELESS AS FIRE RIPS THROUGH ROHINGYA REFUGEE CAMP



### What's Next for Afghans Fleeing the Taliban?

Questions and Answers



### How COVID-19 has affected international labour migration – and the path to enduring reintegration



Several events contributed to the increasing and urgent need to address the ordeal of people's involuntary movement and their increasing insecurities.

### The sea route to Europe: The Mediterranean passage in the age of refugees

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency 1 July 2015



OCHA United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs



HOME / ROHINGYA REFUGEE CRISIS

### Rohingya Refugee Crisis

UNHCR India

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### Acute needs of older Ukrainian refugees and those with disabilities must not be overlooked

27 April 2023



# Research Theme

The evolving role of the humanitarians in responding to the continuously changing needs and complexities of diverse representations of people in several contexts of forced migration.



# Why research about Forced Migration?

- It is noteworthy to know what happens to people who must forcibly move.
- The temporality of forced migration ranges from short periods of displacement to protracted experiences, even lasting throughout their lifetime.
- The lived experience of people in displacement is substantiated by the many interactions and engagements with different actors, including humanitarian actors and other “intermediaries,” while confronting the uncertainties and insecurities related to their forced move.

# Perspective

## Theories

- **Functionalist** (Push-Pull Theory)- “refugee-generating process” (Zolberg 1983)
- **Historical-structural Approaches**  
– Integral part of the North-South relationship
- **Aspiration and capabilities model**  
- migration as a resource to cope and build resilience
- **Migration System Theories**  
engages in the lived experiences and complexities of FM

## Levels

- **Macro** –broader process of development + social transformation
- **Meso** – social mechanisms and structures that facilitate further migration
- **Micro** – capabilities and aspirations

## Debates about Migration and Displacement

- **Process** – Displacement as part of larger migration process, with distinctions and commonality
- **Condition** – Displacement or migration is a reflection of people’s personal history of movement and their perception of their position
- **Category** – fundamental (and problematic ?) in the social research and policy

# Perspective

## Humanitarian Regime



Addressing fears of threats to peace and security

Pre-20th C  
Assisting people suffering deprivation and war

Growing concern to manage and mitigate the suffering of refugee flows

After WW2  
Co-dependence humanitarianism and refugees

Expansion in the international community's population of concern

- Refugees to Forced Migrants
- Broaden context beyond situations of violence
- Emerging roles of non-state actors

# Perspective

**Meso** – social mechanisms and structures that facilitate further migration

**Migration System Theories** – engages in the lived experiences and complexities of FM [Migration Network Theory]

The lived experience of people in **forced migration** is substantiated by the many interactions and engagements with different actors, including **humanitarians** while confronting the uncertainties and insecurities related to their forced move.

**Condition** – Displacement or migration is a reflection of people's personal history of movement and their perception of their position

## Approaches

Socio-  
Anthropological

Political

Legal















# Research Questions

How have humanitarians navigated their evolving roles in supporting displaced people in forced migration?

What are the modalities and types of assistance (available and needed) for forced migrants over time?

What are the considerations for displaced people who cannot (fully) access the necessary support?

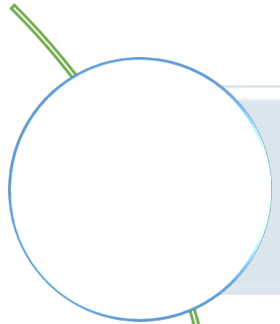
# Diverse Representation of Forced Migrants

Drivers of FM	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Conflict</b></p> 			<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Disasters</b></p> 			and more
Categories of FM	<p style="text-align: center;">Refugees</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">IDPs</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Asylum-seekers etc.</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Refugees</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">IDPs</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Asylum-seekers etc.</p> 	
Representation of FM							

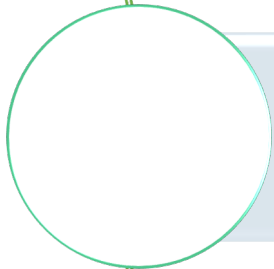


# Studies Explored in the Project

- Representative Humanitarian Data to Inform Programming, Planning, and Policy: Barriers, Facilitators, and Impacts of **Female** Participation in Data Collection on Internal Displacement and Migration
- Data on **child** migration of hum. Programming in N. Africa and S. Europe
- Examining Humanitarian Protection of **Migrant Workers**: A Case Study of Rescue Operations for Trafficked Fishermen from Thailand to Indonesia
- From policy to practice: The evolution of **disability**-inclusive humanitarian action in internal displacement in Nigeria and Vanuatu
- Examining the humanitarian action for displaced **older people**: Representations in research and insights from practice



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Question we should continue to ask

# How can we ensure the inclusion of the most vulnerable?

## Inclusion of the Vulnerable (Weak matches)

There are other migrants who require special support because they face daunting challenges, such as some women and children (especially girls), LGBTQ+ people, and victims of racism, xenophobia, and other forms of discrimination. (WDR 2023, Overview)

- Ensuring that age, gender, and diversity, including disability (AGD), are essential considerations in protecting and upholding the rights of people and communities during emergencies and displacement.
- Inclusion as a derivative of people's quest for better visibility
- Advocating inclusion in data collection, analysis and use.
- Differently vulnerable as they are differently resilient.
- Opportunities for meaningful participation -fair opportunities for everyone beyond the disproportionate structural barriers (Equity)

Thank you!

