

Acknowledgements

About C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group

C40 is a network of nearly 100 mayors of the world's leading cities working to deliver the urgent action needed right now to confront the climate crisis and create a future where everyone, everywhere, can thrive. Mayors of C40 cities are committed to using a science-based and people-focused approach to help the world limit global heating to 1.5°C and build healthy, equitable and resilient communities. We work alongside a broad coalition of representatives from labour, business, the youth climate movement and civil society to support mayors to halve emissions by 2030 and help phase out fossil use while increasing urban climate resilience and equity.

The current co-chairs of C40 are Mayor Sadiq Khan of London, United Kingdom, and Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr of Freetown, Sierra Leone; three-term Mayor of New York City Michael R. Bloomberg serves as President of the Board. C40's work is made possible by our three strategic funders: Bloomberg Philanthropies, Children's Investment Fund Foundation and Realdania.

To learn more about the work of C40 and our cities, please visit our website or follow us on \underline{X} , Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn.

About the Mayors Migration Council

The Mayors Migration Council (MMC) is a mayor-led coalition that accelerates ambitious global action on migration and displacement to create a world where urban migrants, displaced people and receiving communities can thrive. To achieve our mission, we provide mayors with advocacy, coordination and communications support to influence policy decisions at the national and international level, and connect city governments to the knowledge, technical and financial resources they need to accelerate and scale local solutions.

Created by mayors for mayors, the MMC is guided by a Leadership Board of global city leaders and operates with the institutional support of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the IKEA Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Robert Bosch Stiftung, in addition to other donors.

The MMC is managed under the oversight of the Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA), a 501(c) (3) public charity in the United States.

Learn more at www.mayorsmigrationcouncil.org

C40 CITIES



About the C40-MMC Task Force's funders and partners

The C40-MMC Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration is a mayor-led initiative focused on addressing the impact of the climate crisis on migration in cities. The work of the Task Force is made possible through the general support of the Robert Bosch Stiftung.

The Task Force and activities listed in this report also benefitted from the generous partnership and support of other organizations, including the Open Society Foundation, the Scottish Government's Climate Justice Fund, Porticus and the Climate Migration Council.

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Foreword



Mark Watts
Executive Director
C40 Cities



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Mayors Migration Council

From unprecedented flooding in Brazil to protracted drought in the Horn of Africa and repeated wildfires in North America, the climate crisis is increasingly driving migration beyond scientific projections. In 2023 alone, over 26 million displacements worldwide were caused by natural disasters, the third highest figure over the past decade. Cities are unequivocally at the forefront of responses to the human distress and challenges to societies that forced migration brings.

By 2050, climate impacts could force more than 160 million people to move within their countries in just three regions alone – sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Latin America. Globally, up to a billion people could be driven from their homes within the next 30 years – less than half a lifetime.

Most of these journeys will lead to cities.

New research by C40 and the Mayors

Migration Council (MMC), funded by the

Scottish Government, estimates that, by the
same year, 8 million people will be internally
displaced to 10 global south cities alone

- from Bogotá (Colombia) and Amman
(Jordan) to Freetown (Sierra Leone) and

Karachi (Pakistan) – as a result of the climate
crisis if Paris Agreement targets are not met.

If there was ever a stark reminder of the
urgency to ensure human-centred solutions
and urgent action to reduce emissions and
deliver adaptation solutions, this is it.

Leading mayors are already taking action to meet this reality head on, aiming to transform migration into an opportunity to build better cities for all. In 2021, a leading group of C40 and MMC mayors came together to form a Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration with the aim to drive awareness about the urban dimension of climate migration and accelerate global responses in cities. This report takes stock of what the C40-MMC Task Force has done, highlights the impact of this mayoral collaboration and sets the scene for what is needed next.

In just three years the Task Force has delivered a first-of-its-kind <u>Action Agenda</u> on Climate & Migration in cities - taking stock of what cities have been doing and influencing national and international responses, it has driven <u>funding for city-led solutions</u>, to prove action is possible and has built a strong evidence base positioning mayors ahead of the game on frontier issues of climate justice - from <u>loss and damage</u> to <u>good green job</u> creation for migrants and refugees.

This report demonstrates that when mayors unite, act and speak with one voice, they have the capacity to set the agenda for others to follow. Mayors can critically contribute with pragmatic solutions to complex policy issues: building resilience in the face of climate risks, welcoming and protecting those who are forced to move due to climate change, and fostering migrants' and refugees' economic inclusion, through a green and "just transition".

Cities are already leading by example and stepping up to unlock this potential. Take Freetown, which launched a waste management programme that loans tricycles to migrant-run micro-enterprises. Today, these enterprises have repaid half the tricycle costs, which has attracted further investments from multilateral development banks.

Thanks to this leadership, the Task Force is now a trusted voice in the global space driving climate migration discussions and is recognised by the United Nations Secretary-General, among other national and global leaders. Now, a growing coalition of mayors worldwide have marked climate migration as a priority issue, and city leaders are increasingly welcomed to join coalitions of leaders in this field, such as the Climate Migration Council. Now, more needs to happen at the national and multilateral level to deliver solutions at scale.

Climate change is the real crisis of our time, yet the way in which people adapt to its impacts, including through migration, does not need to be.



On this three-year anniversary of the Task Force, we commit to strengthening our diplomacy efforts to drive critical finance and policy shifts so cities can address climate breakdown, slash emissions, reduce fossil fuel demand and ensure migration is an opportunity, not a crisis. We look forward to scaling up this work with leading mayors and partners - including new context-specific research, peer-to-peer support and direct funding for cities - to deliver the urgent action needed and bring along more partners at all levels of governance.

With 2024 likely to be the hottest year on record, no one benefits from delayed climate action and humanity cannot afford more missed opportunities. Building on the successful accomplishments of the past three years, C40-MMC mayoral and organisational leadership stands ready to work with leading mayors, governments, partners and donors to deliver change at the scale needed.

1. Introduction and executive summary

1.1 The C40-MMC Task Force on Climate and Migration

The C40-MMC Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration is a mayor-driven coalition of cities from across the world committed to raising awareness about the urban dimension of climate migration and to accelerating global, national and local responses, leveraging the track records of both C40 and the Mayors Migration Council (MMC) on inclusive climate action and migrants' inclusion.

Established in 2021, the Task Force has emerged as the primary vehicle for leading mayors from across regions to elevate their lived experience at the forefront of climate migration responses. Its work is informed by a first-of-its-kind Action Agenda – led by mayors and designed for mayors – and a three-pronged vision for urban resilience, urban inclusion and urban transformation.

Over a period of three years, the Task Force has engaged a total of 14 mayors from across five regions, under whose leadership C40 and the MMC have successfully delivered direct funding and technical assistance for inclusive climate migration responses to more than 24 cities in the Global South, as well as research and policy analysis to fill crucial knowledge gaps for cities and their partners.

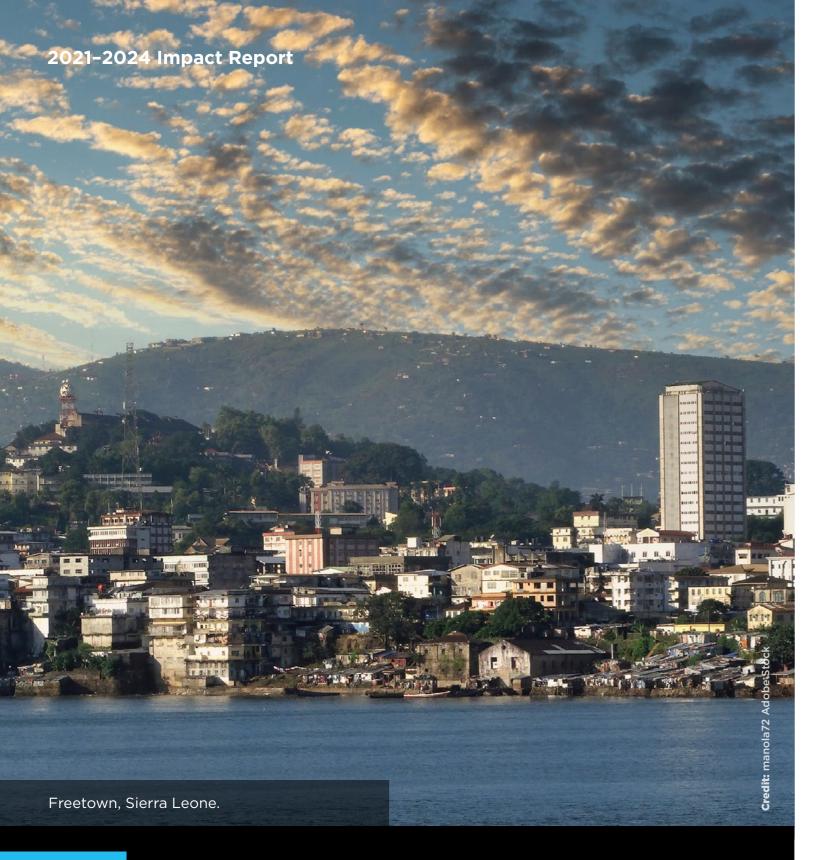
" The climate crisis is a lived reality threatening the lives and

livelihoods of millions of people across the Global South through fires, floods, food shortages and

Cities are vital to tackling this crisis and C40-MMC mayors will continue to do so through this joint Task Force."

mass migration.





1. Introduction

The C40-MMC Global Mayors Action Agenda on Climate and Migration

The <u>C40-MMC Action Agenda</u> is a first-of-its-kind document, designed by mayors and informed by city experience, to define what climate migration challenges mean for cities, proposing a blueprint for city-led action.

Its three-pronged vision for inclusive action on climate and migration is framed across three priority areas that are grounded in municipal plans and policies on both climate action and migration responses:

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Urban resilience

Increase the resilience of city residents in the face of climate hazards and climate displacement, particularly addressing the needs and vulnerabilities of marginalised communities, including migrants, displaced people and lower-income groups;



Urban inclusion

Ensure the protection and inclusion of people who move into our cities, including those who are moving in the context of natural disasters and climate displacement;



Urban transformation

Deliver a green and "just transition" in partnership with migrants and displaced people, harnessing their key contribution to the economy and taking the opportunity to forge more inclusive urban communities.

Building on the lived experience of C40-MMC cities across regions, the Action Agenda is informed by 10 principles for inclusive action on climate and migration. It showcases over 20 city-led actions – demonstrating that concrete solutions exist and work – and it puts forward recommendations for national and international actors to better consult, involve and support cities in delivering responses at scale.

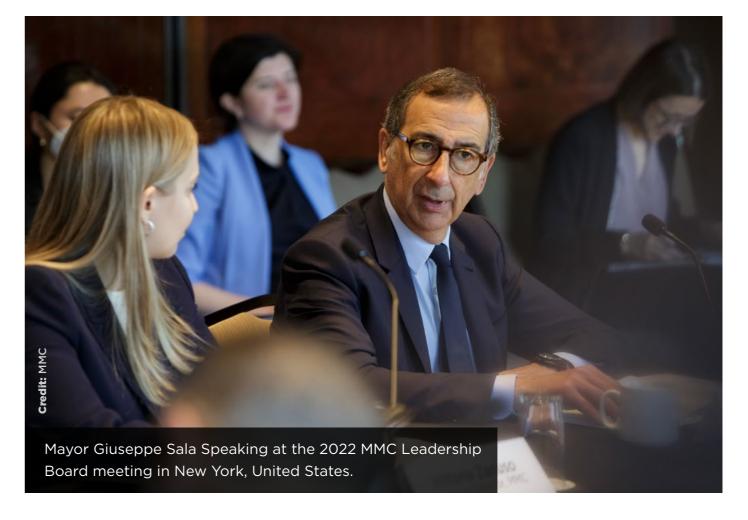
1.2 Scope of the report

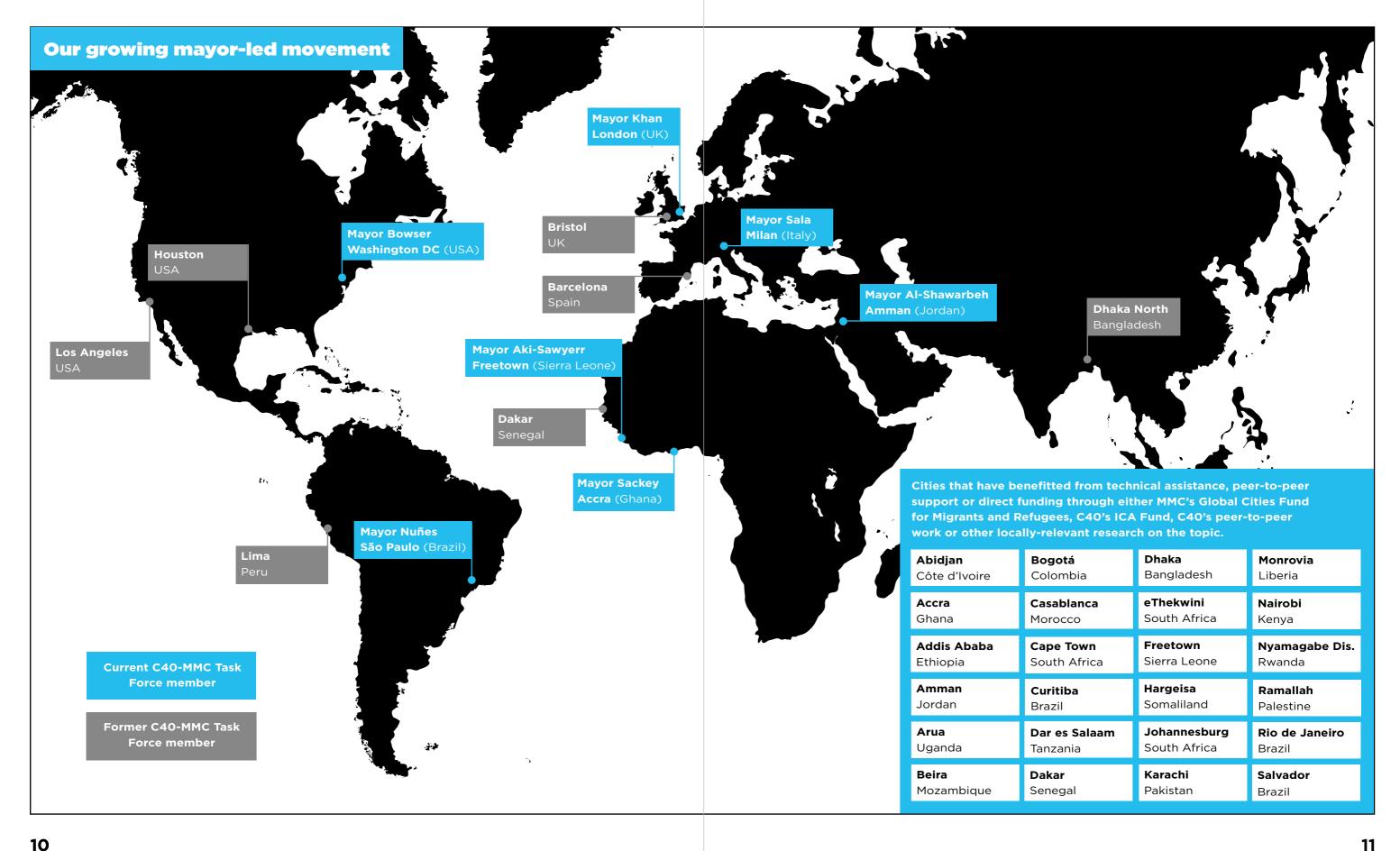
Released on the 2024 International Migrants Day (18 December), this report illustrates the achievements of the C40-MMC Task Force since its establishment in 2021, and its first call to action at the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 26) in Glasgow, Scotland.

Amid growing global recognition of climate migration as an urgent issue of today, the report takes stock of how cities are featured in global policy forums, making the case for mayors to be better consulted, partnered with and supported in finding solutions. It reviews the main achievements of the

Task Force across advocacy, action and research and the key developments and opportunities to come.

This report celebrates the leadership of cities and mayors - without whose innovative action and leadership on urban climate migration this work would have not been possible. Through the report C40 and the MMC aim to inspire national governments, international organisations, the donor community and businesses, as well as a larger pool of local leaders, to join efforts and work with the Task Force in its next chapter.





Mayors at the forefront of climate migration challenges and solutions

From historical flooding in Pakistan and Brazil, to protracted drought in the Horn of Africa, or repeated wildfires in North America, it becomes clearer every day that climate and migration can no longer be tackled as separate issues. The World Bank estimated that 216 million people could be forcibly displaced within their countries by 2050, due to climate change.

Whether at the origin, transit point or final destination of these movements, mayors are unequivocally on the front line of challenges and at the forefront of innovative solutions.

Cities - especially in the Global South, where urbanisation is fastest and climate impacts most severe - are home to over 50% of the global population, and host 70% of migrants, refugees and displaced people. Yet the true impact of projected increases in global movement of people, at the city level, is not reflected in commonly cited estimates.

To remedy this, C40 and the MMC have downscaled the World Bank's global projections to the lived reality of Global South cities, finding that, by 2050:

" We have witnessed first-hand how the climate crisis and migration pressures intersect in Amman. Without city-led climate policies rooted in local data and designed to address the needs of both new and existing residents, we cannot safeguard our cities or livelihoods.

Cities have proven that transformative climate action is possible, but to succeed, we require localised data and sustained investment. "



Mexico and Central America could see up to 10.5 million people internally displaced to the region's major urban areas, due to climate change, unless bold mitigation and adaptation action is taken;

In a study dedicated to understanding potential movement into 10 Global South cities from other parts of their respective city-led examples featured in this report, countries, up to 8 million people could be forced to move to only 10 cities, if the targets of the Paris Agreement are not met.

This not only shows the role of cities as primary destinations for climate migrants, but it underscores the urgent need for consulting, involving and supporting mayors in the delivery of related responses.

Cities are already taking action - often despite limited recognition or funding to deliver the urgent climate action needed - welcoming people on the move and leaving no one behind. There are many from tailoring major adaptation actions to engaging informal workers, including migrants, to addressing climate-induced loss and damage.

There has been positive progress in climate migration policy debates about how to



1. Introduction and executive summary

address the global challenge of climate migration more effectively, including through the leadership of C40-MMC Task Force's mayors and their partners. But it is clear that this requires constant attention and significant ongoing support behind leading mayors.

Climate migration first and foremost requires action to cut greenhouse gas emissions and centre city efforts to adapt to people's homes, livelihoods and needs. Cities and mayors are already demonstrating leadership in cutting emissions faster than their national

counterparts, and accelerating the crucial resilience and adaptation solutions needed to save lives and protect the most vulnerable.

COP 28 delivered historic recognition of the critical role of cities and subnational actors in fighting climate change, with over 70 national governments signing the CHAMP initiative, 1 and, by that, committing to enhanced cooperation between national and subnational actors in the delivery of their nationally determined contributions (NDCs), which are key national pathways to climate



action. Following interventions from C40 and the MMC, cities and civil society, COP 28 also took the historic decision to operationalise the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage,² with prominent recognition of climate migration and climate displacement as a priority form of non-economic losses to be urgently addressed.

When it comes to migration governance, cities have an equally positive track record in protecting and including migrants and refugees, often laying the path for their national and international counterparts to follow at the cutting edge of where migration governance and climate change meet. The importance of a whole-of-government approach - including local governance - on climate migration is fundamental to both the Global Compact for Migration³ (GCM) and the Global Compact on Refugees,4 and was celebrated in the inaugural International Migration Review Forum⁵ (2022) and at the Global Refugee Forum⁶ (2023), through the unprecedented mayor-led Call for Local Action for Migrants and Refugees.⁷

However, despite this growing level of awareness, progress on climate migration remains limited to nominal policy recognition, particularly at the national and multilateral level.

In fact, while national governments and international organisations struggle to define what climate migration responses mean in practice, and how to avoid silos between ministerial mandates and bridge gaps in public discourses, cities are focused on action. They can leverage their smaller scale

of operations to respond with pragmatic solutions to complex policy issues, whether it is about driving a green and just recovery to COVID-19, addressing repeated losses and damage related to climate change, or delivering inclusive actions on climate and migration, as clearly outlined in the C40-MMC Global Mayors Action Agenda.

Yet mayors need more resources, better national policies and a seat at the table to shape them, in order to deliver change at the scale needed. The C40-MMC Task Force was established precisely to address these needs: to raise climate migration on national and global agendas through mayoral leadership – leveraging C40 and the MMC's respective positioning in the climate and the migration diplomatic space – and to shift policy and finance outcomes in favour of cities and the people they serve.

"Climate migration is not just a concern of the future, it is the present reality of millions globally, and local governments are often at the forefront of responses.

The critical work of the C40-MMC Taskforce supports local action and fosters collaboration between cities, contributing to the Global Compact for Migration, in the spirit of a whole-of-government approach."

Amy Pope

Director General of the International Organization for Migration

Three years of C40-MMC Task Force



June 2021

Establishment of the C40-MMC Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration on **2021 International** Refugee Day.



November 2021

Release of the C40-MMC Global Mayors Action Agenda on Climate and Migration, at COP 26, and of a new chapter of the MMC's Global Cities Fund on inclusive climate action, funded by Robert Bosch Stiftung, supporting five African cities to deliver local actions against the principles of the Action Agenda.



February 2022

The United Nations Secretary-General recognises the role of the Task Force in accelerating global responses, as groundbreaking research is published by the MMC and C40, in partnership with Columbia University, providing the first projections of urban climate migration for Central American and Mexican cities.



October 2022

The C40-MMC Task Force meets for the first time in person, at the C40 World Mayors Summit in Buenos Aires (Argentina), echoing C40 mayors' commitment to deliver 50 million good, green jobs in their cities by 2030, benefiting everyone, including migrants and refugees.



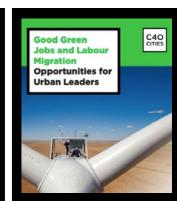
April 2023

At the inaugural Cities Summit of the Americas (Denver, Colorado), USAID announces a \$1 million investment in urban climate migration in Latin American and Caribbean cities, responding to calls from the C40-MMC Task Force.



March 2024 The first Inclusive Climate Action Masterclass on Loss and Damage - organised by C40 with support from the Scottish Government - in Addis

Ababa (Ethiopia), brings together eight African cities to discuss shared challenges and solutions to the worst of climate impacts, including responses to climate migration.



September 2024

At New York Climate Action Week, C40, MMC and the Climate Migration Council release a firstof-its-kind analysis on opportunities for city leadership on good, green jobs and labour migration.

2021

2022

2023

2024



REPORT ON THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON MIGRATION

OCTOBER 2021

A REPORT BY



Leading C40-MMC Task Force mayors from Accra, Dhaka North and Milan elevate the Action Agenda's priorities to Member States and leading United Nations figures, including the Deputy Secretary-General and the then President of the General Assembly.



November 2022

Six more African cities receive funding from MMC's Global Cities Fund to deliver inclusive action on climate and migration against the principles of the C40-MMC Action Agenda with support from the



2023 C40 Inclusive Climate Action Fund cities

June 2023

At the 2023 London Climate Action Week, C40 launches its ICA Fund to provide policy support to its member cities in piloting inclusive and innovative solutions to frontier issues of climate justice, including informality and migrants' economic inclusion.



December 2023

At COP 28, building on the historic operationalisation of the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage, C40 and the Scottish Government announce a £1 million grant to C40 to address urban loss and damage in Global South cities, including key issues of climate migration.



September 2024

In the lead-up to New York Climate Action Week, C40-MMC mayors release future internal climate migration projections for 10 Global South cities across Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and South Asia.



November 2024

Drawing from the work of the C40-MMC Task Force and some of its member cities, the U20 Communiqué includes the first recognition of the term "climate migration".

The first White House report on climate migration recognises the role of the MMC in related policymaking at the international, national and local level, following a

November 2021 previous open letter by US mayors - including Task Force founding members - calling on the Biden Administration to consult, partner with and support mayors on the file.

May 2022

IKEA Foundation.



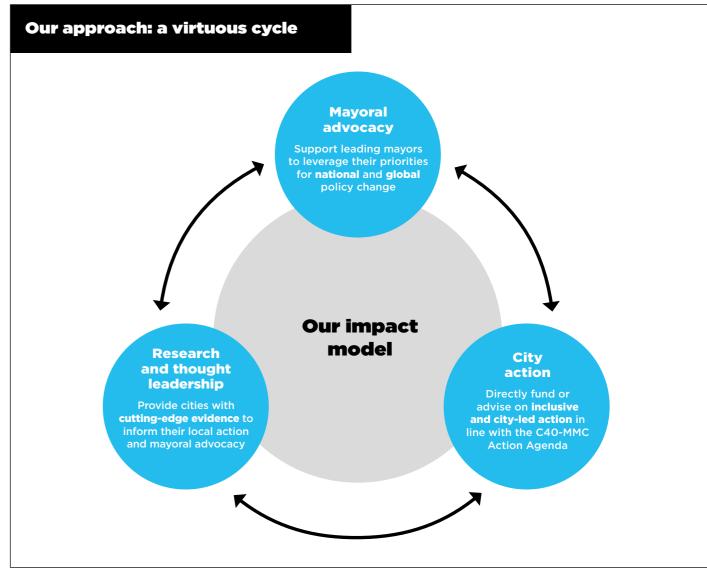
3. Our impact model

Through the work of the Task Force, C40 and the MMC are now a credible voice in the climate migration space. Building from a virtuous cycle of advocacy and action, there is a recognised need from C40 and the MMC to scale up support to member cities across three workstreams: (1) mayoral advocacy, (2) city action, (3) research and thought leadership.

This three-pronged approach builds on C40-MMC's established model that when mayors

unite and speak with one voice they have the potential to lead and set the agenda for their national and international counterparts to follow. The approach also emphasises that, for mayoral advocacy to be credible and effective, it needs to showcase impactful action and utilise cutting-edge evidence and data.

The following sections illustrate the achievements made by C40-MMC mayoral and organisational leadership three years into the Task Force's constitution.



2.1 Mayoral advocacy

Mayoral advocacy is increasingly recognised as a powerful vehicle to drive policy and finance shifts on the international, regional and national stage, on a wide range of global issues, including climate action and migration governance.

This leading role of mayors is also grounded in the unequivocal evidence that, in an increasingly urban world, cities are where challenges are most acutely felt, where solutions can be of higher impact and where national political consensus can be crafted.

Within this context, the release of the C40-MMC Global Mayors Action Agenda in 2021 generated unprecedented momentum for the Task Force's mayoral and organisational leadership to launch a global advocacy campaign targeting both the climate and the migration diplomatic spaces, as well as global and regional development conversations where climate migration is increasingly raised as an issue of concern.

Thanks to C40-MMC joint efforts and the leadership of key partners referenced in this report, the local dimension of climate migration is increasingly recognised and mainstreamed in multilateral discussions and national policy. From accommodating fast-paced urbanisation in climate vulnerable countries, to addressing the unique urban dimension of climate-induced losses and damages to establishing new legal pathways for those who migrate because of climate impacts.

Moving the conversation on climate

Recent years have seen exponentially growing recognition of climate-driven migration and displacement as an urgent issue in multilateral discussions on climate change, in no small part thanks to the leading voice of C40-MMC Task Force mayors and their partners.

Building from the successful release of its mayor-led Action Agenda at COP 26, the Task Force is increasingly perceived as a novel yet trusted actor in migration-related discussions, securing a seat at the table for C40-MMC mayoral and organisational leadership at subsequent COPs and other processes under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

" Cities that invest in the creation of good green jobs can accelerate their energy transition by ensuring migrants are able to access those opportunities. This research shows that by welcoming migrants and investing in skills training for all workers, we can meet a number of critical objectives: provide economic empowerment to workers, help meet the goals of the Paris Agreement, and build more resilient and inclusive cities for all."

Marshall Fitz

Managing Director for Immigration at Emerson Collective and Adviser to the Climate Migration Council

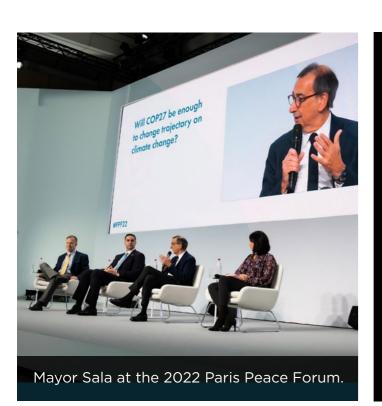


At COP 27, in Sharm El-Sheikh (Egypt), C40-MMC mayors were extensively featured in the high-level conversation with national and United Nations leaders at the Climate Mobility Pavilion, raising the profile of cities and mayors in one of the main venues for climatemigration discussion at the event. Crucially, this also provided a platform to announce additional investment in the MMC's Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees by the IKEA Foundation, bringing the number of cities delivering inclusive action on climate and migration against the principles of the C40-MMC Action Agenda to 11 in only one year, and testifying to a growing uptake of the Task Force's vision by innovative funders.

At COP 28, in Dubai (United Arab Emirates), the historical operationalisation of a new Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage marked the game-changing mention of climate migration

and displacement as a significant adverse impact of climate change. This milestone recognition was partly the outcome of C40-MMC and partners' advocacy efforts towards the UNFCCC Transitional Committee for the Fund during 2023, which included the first and only city-led submission to the Transitional Committee, developed in partnership with the City of Durban/eThekwini (South Africa).8

As a further testament of the role of cities at the forefront of tackling climate-induced loss and damage – including climate-related displacement – a new £ 1 million pound grant by the Scottish Government to C40 Cities for addressing the local dimension of loss and damage included a prominent focus on climate migration as a key form of non-economic loss experienced by cities and front-line communities. The grant, announced by the former Scottish Prime Minister, Humza



" As cities face the climate crisis and support residents affected in various ways, mayors lead in fostering the conditions for a more inclusive and sustainable urban environment.

In Milan we prioritise education and labour integration and we are expanding the efforts to create thousands of green jobs. "

Giuseppe Sala

Mayor of Milan and C40-MMC Task Force member Yusef, in conversation with C40 mayors, was instrumental in further building the knowledge and capacity of Global South cities to cope with climate impacts, including related migration challenges (see sections 2.2 and 2.3 for more details).

Gaining momentum on migration

The Task Force has been present in a broad array of high-level migration-focused conversations and related global forums, actively contributing to raising awareness about climate change as an adverse driver of human mobility and emphasising cities' role at the forefront of responses.

The United Nations Secretary-General's formally recognised the Task Force's role in accelerating global responses to climate migration in his 2022 report on the implementation of the Global Compact on Migration, setting the stage for successful mayoral engagement at the inaugural International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) in New York (United States) in May 2022.

At the forum, C40-MMC Task Force mayors amplified the vision of the Action Agenda to Member States and key United Nations representatives – including the Deputy Secretary-General, Amina Mohamed, and former President of the General Assembly, Abdullah Sharif – and called on national and international leaders to consult, partner with and support mayors in the delivery of climate migration responses.

Similarly, in 2023, climate migration was front and centre in Member States'

discussions at the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) in Geneva (Switzerland), where founding C40-MMC Task Force member and former Mayor of Bristol, Marvin Rees, spoke on behalf of mayors at the GRF plenary, announcing over 100 city pledges and \$80 million in financial commitments for cities collected through the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees.

The Call to Local Action is the official pathway for cities to commit to the United Nations Global Compact for Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees and be recognised for meeting global goals. The Call to Local Action encompasses a broad array of city-led inclusive actions on climate and migration implemented by C40-MMC cities and elevated to the United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR), as a testament of mayoral leadership. Several of these actions were also shared and discussed by Task Force mayors in conversation with Member States and leading United Nations figures throughout the GRF.

Driving recognition in national and regional processes

The Task Force's Action Agenda outlines a vision for the type of response cities need to address climate migration across regions: a response that is people-centred, treats everyone with agency, supports communities to retain their homes and livelihoods, targets those with fewest resources and choices and recognises that migration is a human response to a world that has not prioritised these public goods to date.

C40-MMC Task Force mayors have raised climate migration and the profile of cities at the forefront of solutions in a diverse set of national and regional forums, engaging in high-level conversations and drawing connections with other frontier policy issues.

For example, following an open letter by 12 mayors in the United States - including former C40-MMC Task Force members, Mayor Garcetti of Los Angeles and Mayor Turner of Houston - the Biden Administration recognised the role of cities and the MMC in the first-ever United States Government report covering climate migration. City representatives from the Task Force were also invited alongside the MMC to attend State Department consultations in the lead-up to the report's release, stressing the need to consult, partner with and support mayors in the delivery of solutions. Building from this recognition, at the inaugural Cities Summit of the Americas (Denver, April 2023), USAID announced a \$1 million investment in urban climate migration in Latin American and Caribbean cities, answering calls from C40-MMC mayors.

At the 2023 Africa Climate Action Week, building on C40 mayors' pledge to deliver 50 million good, green jobs in their cities by 2030, 12 African mayors – including the C40-MMC Task Force lead and Mayor of Freetown, Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr – called on national and international actors to better support local leaders in driving the creation of good, green jobs and making sure these opportunities are accessible to all, including informal workers and the migrants among them.

This call to action set the basis for subsequent cross-regional work by C40, MMC and the Climate Migration Council to support local actors in integrating their local action on green transition and migrants' economic inclusion (see section 2.3 for more details).

In less than three years, mayors and cities have developed a confident voice on climate migration, despite the fact that climate and migration are often tackled in siloed and highly politicised global policy settings.

One setting where cities often bring together key policy issues and advocate for joint action by national governments is the Urban 20 (U20), a forum for cities to address global challenges with G20 members. For the first time, in November 2024, cities <u>raised</u> the specific issue of climate migration and the inclusive responses needed to support migrants and host communities for a just transition together.

In addition, cities called for national governments to commit to supporting local public service provision as a key tool in the social and economic inclusion of migrants in cities.

Their message is that such provision needs to include welcoming and labour orientation, access to housing and health care, and education and language training, investing in cities as green and sustainable hubs for jobs and skills hubs, recognising that such provision is an essential element of investing in the just and inclusive transition and extending these efforts to formal and informal workers.

For the first time, in November 2024, Extract from the U20 Communiqué, cities raised the specific issue of climate delivered to President Lula by Mayor Paes migration and the inclusive responses of Rio de Janeiro, Mayor Aki-Sawyerr of needed to support migrants and host Freetown (C40-MMC Task Force lead) and communities for a just transition Mayor Hidalgo of Paris. together, urging G20 leaders to: " Recognise that human mobility is a phenomenon driven among other factors by conflict, growing inequalities and climate change - especially towards, within, and from cities - while acknowledging that the long-term integration of migrants is a valuable force promoting urban growth, cultural and socioeconomic opportunities and innovation, and the implementation of a green and just transition in cities. " COMMUNIQUÉ Mayor Aki-Sawyerr of Freetown, President Lula of Brazil, and Mayor Paes of Rio de Janeiro at the 2024 U20 Summit in Rio, Brazil

2.2 City action

From building resilience in the face of climate impacts to protecting people on the move, or fostering their economic inclusion through a green and just transition, cities across regions are already leading by example. They are delivering action against the principles of the C40-MMC Action Agenda, while demonstrating that solutions exist but that more national and international support is essential to deliver change at the scale needed.

Since 2021, C40 and the MMC have been leveraging different instruments and partnerships to provide technical assistance, policy support and direct funding to leading cities across regions, including, but not limited to, several C40-MMC Task Force members. This support has been instrumental in addressing some of cities' most pressing challenges and pioneering solutions to frontier issues. This work is providing critical proof of concept and an evidence base for high-impact advocacy and diplomacy campaigns. The following sections review some of the main lines of support that were either delivered by C40 and MMC jointly, or by integrating climate migration in the two organisations' respective business plans and core functions.

Localising migration funding to address climate migration in cities

There is a growing recognition of the adverse effects of climate change on human mobility at all levels of governance as well as an interest in supporting direct implementation projects, including at the city level. Within this context, the MMC established a <u>Global Cities Fund</u> for <u>Migrants and Refugees</u> (GCF) to respond to the unmet needs of cities as they support migrants, refugees and internally displaced people in the face of pressing challenges, from global pandemics to the climate crisis.

The GCF drove support to leading cities in the Global South to deliver innovative actions against the C40-MMC Action Agenda.

For example:

- Under the leadership of Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr, the city of **Freetown** (Sierra Leone) leveraged GCF funding to promote good, green jobs and green entrepreneurship opportunities in the waste management sector, for rural migrants and vulnerable voung people. The city created a waste management programme that loaned tricycles to 40 micro-enterprises run by youth living in informal settlements - many of whom are rural migrants - to collect waste and improve the city's public sanitation. The project helped 240 young migrants find work and pay back 80% of the cost of each tricycle, which the city is using to establish additional youth enterprises and expand the project's impact.
- In **Amman (Jordan)**, Mayor Yousef Al-Shawarbeh utilised GCF funding to promote refugee social inclusion and bolster Amman's climate resilience by

constructing an accessible and climatesmart public park for refugee and Jordanian children. The park will feature the city's first climate academy to teach Amman's youngest residents about environmental stewardship.

Beira (Mozambique) and Hargeisa (Somaliland) used GCF funding to pilot voluntary, dignified relocation projects that help vulnerable communities move away from areas prone to recurrent flooding. As a result of these interventions, the City of Beira has successfully relocated 15 families, in a project that is a pilot for a total target of 1,000 families in the years ahead. In Hargeisa, the municipality resettled 140 of the most vulnerable internally displaced households. In both projects, beneficiaries have gained increased safety, security of land tenure and the ability to access livelihood opportunities.

A full list of GCF-funded projects across 28 city grantees is available at this link.

"The Global Cities Fund for Migrants and Refugees has proven that when the international community invests in cities, people are put at the centre of climate adaptation initiatives to ensure a just and inclusive green transition."

Ottilie Bälz

Senior Vice President, Global Issues, Robert Bosch Stiftung While investing directly in cities, the MMC and mayors also pushed for multilateral funds to invest in locally-led responses, including on climate migration. Thanks to these advocacy efforts, 75% of projects under the United Nations Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund have implementation agreements with local governments compared with the original target of 30%. Yet even this progress is not enough to meet the growing demand from city and national governments. In the leadup to the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, the MMC pledged to bring its GCF projects pipeline to a total of \$50 million by 2030, starting with \$25 million by 2025, including support for inclusive action on climate and migration. Nearly 90% of cities that have completed their GCF grant have used their success as a proof of concept to unlock additional international, national and/or local investments and further expand their projects, including responses to climate migration. C40 is a strategic partner of the GCF, along with the International Organization for Migration, the UNHCR, United Cities and Local Governments. UN-Habitat and Metropolis.

Addressing the needs and aspirations of migrants in a green and just transition

C40 Cities supports nearly one hundred of the world's mega-cities to deliver Paris Agreement-aligned climate actions that are inclusive and equitable, leaving no one behind – including those affected by or at risk of migration.

Within this context, migrants' economic inclusion in local green and just transition

strategies is a growing area of policy interest for many C40 members working on inclusive climate action, as cities drive forward efforts to lower emissions and protect populations.⁹

By leveraging its <u>Global Green New Deal Pilot</u> <u>Initiative</u> and <u>Inclusive Climate Action Fund</u>, among other lines of technical support, C40 has been working with partners to strengthen existing programmes, make them more equitable and inclusive for all – including migrants – and unlock broader, long-term organisational and financial buy-in for inclusive climate action.

Under the leadership of Mayor Sackey, the city of Accra (Ghana) leveraged support from the Global Green New Deal Pilot Initiative to strengthen collaboration in the informal waste management sector, promote ownership of climate action and enhance access to wider benefits.

In this context, Accra launched an unprecedented dialogue process with informal workers to create informal waste management cooperatives, integrating the latter in its service-delivery systems, thereby recognising their economic contribution, and ultimately expanding social protection. As migrant workers are disproportionately represented in the city's informal sector, migrants' economic inclusion and protection was soon identified as a key component of

" Cities are the frontline of climate migration all across the Global South.

Mayors are leading the charge in raising awareness of this critical issue, but need concerted effort from all levels of government to support locally-led policies and investment that can protect all residents and help national governments meet their own climate targets."

Ricardo Nunes
Mayor, São Paulo, Brazil

the project; which also put the city in a unique position to access complementary funding through the MMC's Global Cities Fund, integrating 450 migrant waste workers into the formal economy and facilitating their access to health care, childcare and financial inclusion services. Accra's pioneering work on informality, just transition and migration has inspired other cities to take similar leadership roles. For example. **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** engaged informal workers in the organic waste management sector, thanks to support from C40's ICA Fund, while connecting migrants and refugees with green jobs in the sector.

Under the leadership of Mayor Sala, the city of Milan (Italy) has worked with C40's Rapid Response Project to quantify the equity impact of good, green job growth on different demographics, including migrant workers. The analysis estimated that Milan could support the creation of 50,000 good, green jobs by 2030, mainly in the manufacturing and construction sectors - the latter of which is characterised by higher-than-average representation of migrant workers. The analysis prompted the city of Milan to develop a public policy programme focused on creating good, green jobs and reducing energy poverty. The Action Plan against Energy Poverty, currently under development, aims to tackle energy poverty as a multidimensional issue, generating both environmental and social benefits. In addition to improving energy efficiency, it will help to address deepening inequalities and strengthen community-wide cohesion by supporting families experiencing socioeconomic hardship and fostering the economic inclusion of women, youth and migrants. Similar workforce equity assessments have been carried out in other C40 cities, shedding light on the distributional effects of green transition policies on different demographic groups and taking stock of their contribution to an emerging green economy.

A range of other cities' actions supported by C40 and partners are featured under C40's Good, green jobs and just transition mission, illustrating city commitments to drive the creation of 50 million good, green jobs in cities by 2030 in partnership with all stakeholders. São Paulo (Brazil) is measuring the share of informal employment in the green economy. Madrid (Spain) has partnered with UNHCR to train 61 people - most of whom are from a migrant background and provide paid practical experience on construction sites to retrofit four public buildings. Bengaluru (India) has fostered the inclusive participation of formal and informal workers - including internal and regional migrants - in the waste sector in policy design and upskilling, through inclusive needs assessments and qualitative data-collection processes. In 2024, with support from C40, the city carried out a set of awareness and capacity-building sessions with migrant waste workers, focusing on worker safety and welfare provisions from national and subnational government agencies including for registration, identification cards, health insurance and pension schemes.

Fostering dialogue and exchange between leading cities

As leading networks of cities and mayors committed to accelerating ambitious responses to climate change and migration

respectively, C40 and the MMC have a solid track record of facilitating dialogue between cities across regions, united by common challenges, solutions and goals. Since the establishment of the C40-MMC Task Force, climate migration has been integrated in

Informality, migration and the critical importance of inclusive climate action

Migrant workers are typically overrepresented in the informal economy, which accounts for 50–80% of urban employment across the Global South and generates between 25% and 50% of the (non-agricultural) GDP of low- and middleincome countries.

As C40's work on inclusive climate action shows, informal workers – including migrants – often make a crucial contribution to emission-reducing sectors, such as waste recycling, construction and informal public transport across regions; yet they face significant barriers in accessing decent employment and social protection. Similarly, more than a billion people live in informal settlements globally, often without access to basic services, facing increasing climate risks – especially floods and extreme heat – as well as risk of urban displacement.

C40 and MMC research shows that most climate migrants are moving from rural to

urban areas within their own countries, often trading one set of climate risks for another in the process, especially as they move into informal settlements. The number of people living in informal settlements could triple by 2050, without equitable and participatory approaches to upgrading and urban planning.

To tackle these challenges, cities are working closely with informal populations, adopting participatory and migration-informed approaches to climate action; for instance, through the C40 Water Safe Cities Accelerator, through which 18 signatory cities – many of them C40-MMC Task Force Members – are establishing early warning systems in low-income areas where communities face a high risk of flooding and drought.

The forthcoming C40 Inclusive Water
Resilience Accelerator Fund will help to meet
unmet needs of cities as they navigate the
challenges of urban water management in the
context of a climate crisis.

the two organisations' core peer-to-peer functions, unlocking opportunities for cities to share related best practices in connection with contingent global issues and policy files. Some examples include:

C40's Inclusive Climate Action
 Academy on Informality (Accra, Ghana)
 Dec 2022.

Bringing together city representatives from Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), Accra (Ghana) and Lagos (Nigeria), the Academy provided a unique space for municipal teams to discuss key challenges and opportunities to engage and include informal workers, including migrants, in their local climate action and just transition plans. Building on the successful leadership of Accra - as part of both its C40 Global Green New Deal pilot and Global Cities Fund project - the Academy also paved the way for a followup partnership between the city of Accra and the IOM's Country Office, focused on local capacity-building and knowledge on climate migration.

 C40's Regional Masterclass on Loss and Damage and Resilience (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia) - March 2024.

With support from the Scottish
Government's Climate Justice Fund,
eight city delegations from across Africa
- Abidjan, Addis Ababa, Accra, Cape
Town, Dakar, Dar es Salaam, Freetown
and eThekwini - gathered in Addis Ababa
for a one-week C40 workshop focused

on loss and damage and inclusive climate action. The event, Building Resilient Cities and Protecting Frontline Communities from Climate-Induced Losses and Damages, was the first city-focused conversation on climate-induced loss and damage following the operationalisation of the new Fund for responding to Loss and Damage at COP 28, and featured discussions on climate migration and displacement. Each city left with a bespoke strategy designed to amplify its climate action narratives effectively and key projects that funders can support cities to deliver.

 Regional C40 climate migration regional webinar with West Asia and South Asian cities (Dec 2024).

Building on the leadership and on lived experience of C40-MMC Task Force cities, C40 Regions team organised an online webinar for cities and partners across West and South Asia, to share best practices and solutions to common challenges at the forefront of climate migration. The webinar was part of a broader peer-to-peer effort to bring more cities onboard on core issues of climate and equity, reconciling perspectives on climate migration and mainstreaming the topic in local climate action.

2.3 Research and thought leadership

A fundamental objective of the C40-MMC partnership – as well as core functions as leading city networks – is to provide a firm research and evidence base for all advocacy and diplomatic discourse, while also supporting cities with locally focused data to inform strategic planning and programming.

C40 and the MMC have been regularly investing in targeted research and thought leadership products since the release of the Task Force's Action Agenda – and its three-pronged vision for urban resilience, urban inclusion and urban transformation – gaining broad recognition in policy and media discussions.

Positioning mayors ahead of the game on frontier climate migration issues

Since publishing the Action Agenda in 2021, C40 and the MMC have been closely monitoring global discussions in both the climate and the migration spaces, in order to identify new emerging issues for cities and equip mayors with solid evidence and arguments to lead policy discussions at the global and national level. Two first-of-their-kind products were delivered in this respect, in partnership with other leading organisations in the climate migration space:

" Accra, and cities across all of the Global South, are confronting the effects of the climate crisis whilst also welcoming displaced populations from across their countries, many without access to formal employment or status.

Locally-led climate action, driven by local-level data and backed by sufficient climate finance, presents a key opportunity for cities to facilitate the inclusion of migrants while protecting all residents from climate impacts."





Loss and Damage: Challenges and Opportunities for City Leadership (Dec 2023)

Released in partnership with the Scottish Government's Climate Justice Fund, in the wake of the operationalisation

of the new Fund for responding to Loss and Damage at COP 28 (December 2023), this report compiles the lived experience of cities on the front line of climate-induced loss and damage – including climate displacement – identifying opportunities for city-led action and outlining recommendations for national and international actors to support cities in bringing solutions to scale.

The report showcases over 30 city-led actions - from preparedness and disaster risk reduction to emergency responses - that leading cities are taking to address the worst of climate impacts, including through cityto-city cooperation and global solidarity. Publication of the report also set the stage for a new £1 million pound partnership between the Scottish Government's Climate Justice Fund and C40, precisely focused on addressing urban loss and damage in Global South cities. Its findings and recommendations have been elevated by C40-MMC mayors and partners in several forums, including UNFCCC discussions on the operationalisation of the new loss and damage Fund.

Link to the report **here**



Good Green Jobs and Labour Migration: Opportunities for Urban Leaders (Sept 2024)

Released in partnership with Emerson Collective's Climate Migration
Council, this report
responds to a growing interest from mayors,

national governments and international organisations in the link between green transition and labour migration. It builds on the assumption that, although the impact of climate change on migration is increasingly researched and documented, less attention has been put on how human mobility can contribute to a green and just transition. C40-MMC mayors first identified this as a priority in their Action Agenda. Building on the lived experience of cities across regions, and showcasing over 30 examples of cityled actions in this space, the report provides evidence on cities' key role in both driving the demand for good green jobs and preparing the supply of a green and diverse workforce. In doing so, it demonstrates how urban investments in climate action that creates jobs and prepares the necessary workforce can present opportunities across the whole migration spectrum - in cities and countries of origin - to avert migration and tackle brain drain, and in cities and countries of transit and destination, to foster economic inclusion while addressing labour-market needs, especially shortages of workers and skills.

Link to the report here

Equipping cities with local data on climate migration trends

C40 and the MMC have identified an emerging need for locally specific data on climate migration patterns and related future projections as a crucial tool to drive global awareness on climate-induced displacement, as well as to support cities in developing data-informed plans amid rapid urbanisation.

In particular, building on the World Bank's *Groundswell* future projections

on internal climate displacement, and downscaling that model to the urban reality of cities in the Global South, C40 and the MMC have delivered groundbreaking evidence on how climate change is expected to drive human mobility, especially towards cities, and exacerbate urbanisation challenges across Central America, Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and South Asia.

This work includes the reports shown on the right.





Future Urban Landscapes: Climate Migration Projections in Cities (Sept 2024)

In the context of a new grant from the Scottish Government to C40, focused on the local dimension of climate-

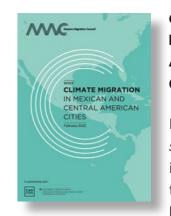
induced loss and damage, C40 and the MMC partnered with the Marxe School of Public and International Affairs at Baruch College to develop city-level projections and impacts for ten cities in the Global South, across Bangladesh, Brazil, Colombia, Ghana, Jordan, Pakistan and Sierra Leone.

This research found that, by 2050, up to 8 million internally displaced people could be moving to the 10 cities studied, if the targets of the Paris Agreement are surpassed.

The analysis also found that, in all contexts studied, climate migrants moving into cities are often trading one set of climate risks for another.

Amid rapid urbanisation, the climate crisis is expected to drive a significant increase in urban population, making locally led climate action essential to face related challenges.

Link to the report here



Climate Migration in Mexican and Central American Cities (Feb 2022)

Building on the *Ground-swell* methodology, while incorporating refinements to better capture the urban dimension of climate

migration, this research found that <u>climate-re-lated disruptions to food production and water availability</u> could have significant repercussions for migration and result in growing urban populations. Without concrete climate and development action, up to 10.5 million climate migrants may make their way to urban centres in Mexico and Central America by 2050. Climate in-migration hotspots across the region will emerge in larger urban areas with better climate conditions and more livelihood opportunities, including in Mexico, where cities could receive 10.5 million climate migrants in the next 30 years.

Link to the report here

" Cities are at the helm of creating open, inclusive and supportive environments for refugees and internally displaced people.

We hope more cities will pledge to the Call to Local Action and join this movement. "

Ruvendrini Menikdiwela

UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Protection

Shifting public narratives on climate migration

In just three years, C40-MMC mayoral and organisational leadership has been featured in climate migration discussions on a broad

range of media and communication outlets, at both the global and the regional level, including some of the following.

Bloomberg Media

THENEW STATESMAN



The New York Times



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EL TIEMPO





The Washington Post



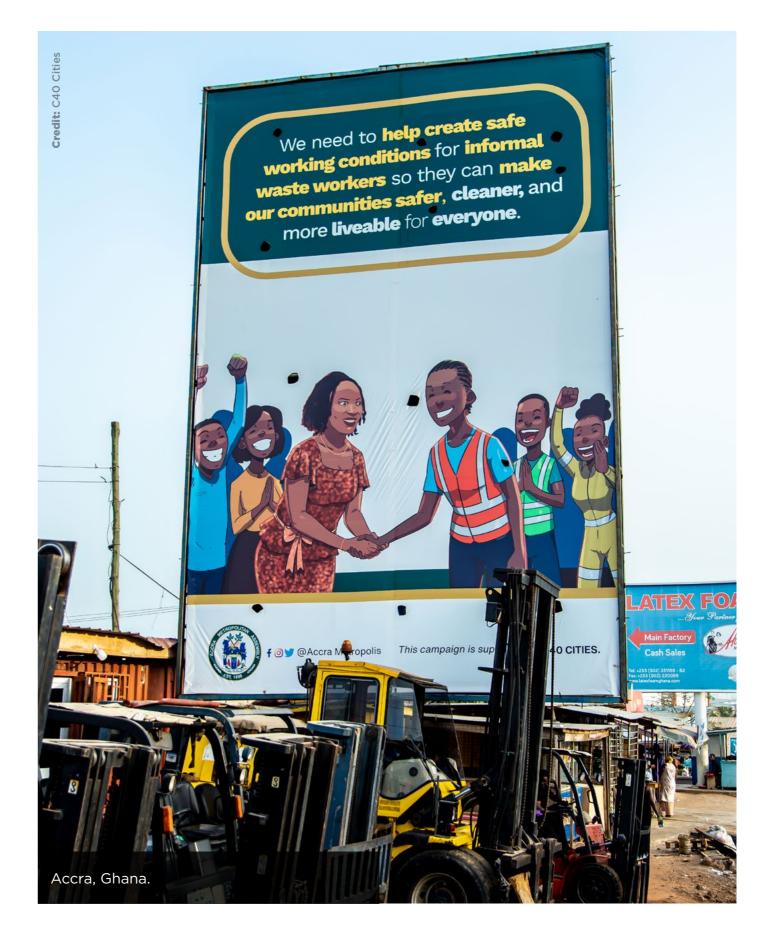


SEMAFOR











In only three years the C40-MMC Global Mayors Task Force on Climate and Migration has become a leading and credible voice in the climate migration space: raising the profile of mayors through global diplomacy campaigns, positioning mayors ahead of the game on frontier issues and directly supporting cities in delivering high-impact and inclusive solutions. Whether working to address the worst of climate impacts, protect those who are forced to move or foster migrants' economic inclusion in a green and just transition, C40-MMC mayors and partners are now

recognised as doers, not delayers.

Their leadership is increasingly acknowledged by national and international leaders, who offer mayors a seat at the table to contribute with tangible solutions to complex policy problems. In response, a growing array of partners and donors have been willing to invest in locally-led actions to drive global change; while C40 and the MMC are committed to continue supporting their members to access the resources they need.

In parallel, climate migration research and analysis that is designed for mayors and endorsed by mayors is effectively shaping public discourses across regions - from raising awareness about climate-driven urbanisation in cities in the Global South to proving how integrated action on green jobs creation and labour migration can drive a fairer and faster green transition for all. In this light, leveraging their technical knowledge

and core functions, C40 and the MMC will continue monitoring global trends to equip cities with context-specific data, while facilitating dialogue and exchange.

As a result of this targeted approach, a growing array of mayors, national governments and partners are now convinced that climate migration is not just a concern for the future, but also an issue that needs to be addressed now, and often starting from the local level. The urgency of this issue is no longer in question.

Climate change is the real crisis of our time, but the way in which people adapt to its impacts, including through migration, does not need to be.

With 2024 likely to be the hottest year on record, no one benefits from delayed climate action and humanity cannot afford more missed opportunities. Building on the successful accomplishments of the past three years, C40-MMC mayoral and organisational leadership stands ready to work with leading mayors, governments, partners and donors to deliver change at the scale needed.



Conclusion and way forward

2021-2024 Impact Report Endnotes

Endnotes

- CHAMP is a commitment taken by national governments on a new way of working in partnership with their subnational governments and, in particular, on a new way of approaching the development and implementation of their next nationally determined contributions (NDCs) in time for COP 30 in 2025.
- 2 In 2022, at COP 27, countries agreed to establish new funding arrangements for assisting developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. The following year, at COP 28, countries reached a historic agreement on the operationalization of this fund. As part of that decision, the World Bank was invited to "operationalize the Fund as a World Bank hosted financial intermediary fund (FIF) for an interim period of four *years*", subject to a set of conditions to be met by the World Bank. The role of the World Bank will be to host the Fund secretariat, and to provide trustee services for the Fund.
- The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (also known as the GCM) is the first inter-governmentally negotiated agreement, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, covering all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner. It is a non-binding document that respects the sovereign right of States to determine who enters and stays in their

- territory and demonstrates commitment to international cooperation on migration. It presents a significant opportunity to improve the governance of migration, to address the challenges associated with today's migration and to strengthen the contribution of migrants and migration to sustainable development.
- is a framework for more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing, recognizing that a sustainable solution to refugee situations cannot be achieved without international cooperation. It provides a blueprint for governments, international organisations and other stakeholders to ensure that host communities get the support they need and that refugees can lead productive lives.
- Forum (IMRF) took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 17 to 20 May 2022. The goal: to review the progress made at the local, national, regional and global levels in implementing the GCM.
- 6 Held every four years, the Global Refugee
 Forum is the world's largest international
 gathering on refugees. It brings together
 United Nations Member States and
 stakeholders to discuss and find solutions
 for the challenges faced by refugees and
 their host communities.

- 7 The <u>Call to Local Action for Migrants and</u>
 Refugees is the official pathway for cities
 to commit to the GCM and the Global
 Compact on Refugees and be recognized
 for meeting global goals.
- Was established at COP 27 and welcomed submissions from a diverse range of State and non-State actors, to inform the process of establishing the Fund. Following unprecedented flooding in Durban/eThekwini (South Africa) in April 2022, C40 worked with the city to collect its lived experience on loss and damage and elevate that to the attention of the Transitional Committee. The submission was the only one in the process that was developed by a local government.
- Nearly all of C40's 96 city members have 1.5°C compatible climate action plans and 82% of C40 cities are reducing per capita emissions faster than their respective countries.

