

Module 8 Expert Video

So as we have seen, people who cross a border as a result of climate impacts are not recognised as refugees.

This limits the likelihood they will be allowed to settle in the new country and access the resources and services they require.

So what is the solution?

Well, one way of thinking about this is to think how the issue can be broken down into more manageable chunks.

It might be possible to create or adapt frameworks which are centred on vulnerable groups.

For example, the Convention on the Rights of the Child is a framework which focuses on the needs of children.

Another way could be to think about how national or regional policies can address the issue.

And this module gives some examples of how this is actually already occurring, particularly in the Pacific.

But this is not to say that the possibility of an overarching framework should be dismissed as a fantasy.

In fact, the recent decision at COP 27 about the creation of a fund for countries affected by loss and damage shows that paradigm shifts in climate policy can and do occur.

And it may well be that in 5 or 10 or 20 years there is a framework for the protection of those impacted by human mobility in the context of climate change.