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Advisory Panel on Question of Human Migration

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Forum:	Advisory Panel on the Question of Human Migration
Issue:	Facilitating the assimilation and protecting the rights of newly-arrived refugees and asylum seekers in Western Europe
Chair:	Donna Chen

Introduction

Each year, over hundreds of thousands of refugees travel across the Mediterranean Sea, risking their lives to seek safety in other countries. Thousands of people die and go missing on this deadly journey. For those who successfully reach other countries, many are turned back and others are abused.

While it is important to focus on the needs of refugees and asylum seekers, it is also important for member nations to consider those living in the host countries as well. As refugees are used as scapegoats and xenophobia rises because of the fear of terrorism, member nations will need to find solutions to ensure citizens that such refugees and asylum seekers bring no harm. Germany serves as a great example, being the largest refugee hosting country in Europe. The topic of immigration of refugees and asylum seekers is necessary, but focus will need to be placed on the assimilation and protection of the rights of the newly-arrived refugees. Thus, it is important to consider the perspective of host countries in order to draft solutions to tackle the increasing conservative and anti-refugee manners.

Definition of Key Terms

Assimilation

The United Nations (UN) International Organization for Migration defines assimilation as the "adaptation of one ethnic or social group – usually a minority – to another."

Asylum Seekers

People seeking safety from a country other than their own as a result of fear of danger in their home country. Asylum seekers wait for decisions regarding their applications for refugee status. Unless given permission to stay, asylum seekers are required to depart from the country and can even at times be expelled when denied of their application. Asylum seekers receive refugee status only after their application have been accepted by national authorities.

Refugees

Art. 1(A)(2), Convention relating to the Status of Refugees 1951, as modified by the 1967 Protocol defines refugees are people who, "owning to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, are outside the country of their nationality and are unable or, owing to such fear, are unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country." Other similar definitions of refugees can be found in the 1969 Organization of African Unity (OAU) or the 1984 Cartagena Declaration.

General Overview

Major Parties Involved

Germany

Germany is the largest refugee hosting country in Western Europe. However, Parliament plans to amend the Dublin Regulation as Germany worries about a significant increase in refugees. Germany, under a draft coalition agreement, have decided to control the number of asylum seekers to a maximum of 220,000 per year. Further reported cases of violence claimed to be enacted on the behalf of the Islamic State has caused anti-refugee sentiment to rise.

Greece and Italy

Greece and Italy are under pressure as refugees continue to apply for asylum. Officials in Italy have been among the more welcoming of those in Europe, where refugees are provided with homes and jobs, as well as other living necessities. However, as pressures rise, Italy has threatened to stop providing humanitarian help without the aid from other EU nations. EU member states have pledged in September 2015 to relocate 106,000 asylum seekers from Greece and Italy, but only less than 30,000 have been relocated. Instead, the number of refugees entering Greece continues to rise dramatically. The influx of refugees into Greece and Italy places a strain on not only the host country, but also increases tension within refugee camps.

France

Refugee Rights Data Projects reports excessive abuse of refugees residing in France. Refugees live in grueling conditions, often taking refuge on the streets of France. Police officers treat refugees poorly, physically abusing them and forcing them to move off the streets. When faced with resistance, researchers report the use of tear gas against refugees, as well as physical and verbal abuse.

Syria

A vast majority of refugees come from Syria, with refugees coming from other regions of the Middle East, such as Afghanistan, Lake Chad Basin, South Sudan, and Somalia.

UNHCR

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is one of the leading organizations working to provide assistance to asylum seekers and refugees. The UNHCR works towards providing emergency assistance, as well as helping refugees seek safety and integrate into society.

Reasons for Discrimination

Organizations such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have all reported discrimination against refugees, where refugees and asylum seekers face verbal, sexual, and physical assault. Even countries such as Turkey and Pakistan, the world's largest and second largest host of refugees, respectively, discriminate against refugees from the Middle East, such as those from Syria and Afghanistan. Even refugees seeking safety in Germany, a highly praised country in Western Europe for its acceptance of refugees, struggle for basic human rights. While many of those against accepting refugees argue that the refugees pose a threat to job opportunities, origins of discrimination are much more complex.

Rise of Terrorism

With the rise of ISIS (also referred as ISIL, Daesh, or IS), the public developed xenophobia and false stigmas against refugees due to ignorance and lack of knowledge. A fake Syrian passport found among one of the attackers at the Paris terrorist attacks in November 2015 have incited uneasiness among the public. However, France continues to accept even more refugees than previously committed to.

Economic Concerns

The public's major concern is the threat refugees bring in taking away jobs from citizens in host countries, and demand that the role of the member nation is to protect its citizens. However, it is important to recognize the common enemy. Turning away and alienating refugees would only allow terrorist groups such as ISIS to grow stronger.

Timeline of Events

The United Nations have drafted and passed numerous resolutions on the topic of refugees. UN resolutions attempt to provide refugees and asylum seekers with protection and rights and urge member nations to expand their quota. The UNHCR has established the World Refugee Day in attempts to promote global responsibility. However, the existence of xenophobia among citizens of host countries prevent refugees from receiving full protection and rights, hindering them from successfully integrate and assimilate into society.

Date	Description of event
July 28, 1951	The 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees was adopted in Geneva, Switzerland, which established the definition of a refugee and the protection, rights, and assistance refugees are guaranteed.
October 4th, 1967	The Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees entered into force, amending the 1951 Refugee Convention by removing the geographical and time constraints. The implementation of the 1967 Protocol would allow the 1951 Refugee Convention to apply to those who became refugees after January 1951.
January 1st 2014	The Dublin II Regulation entered into force, establishing guidelines on the responsibilities of asylum applications.
2015	The European refugee crisis begins.

UN Involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

The United Nations, especially the UNHCR and the OHCHR are working to assist people fleeing conflict and persecution. Working alongside other organizations such as the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), UN peacekeepers, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as well as the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the United Nations hope to provide refugees and asylum seekers with basic rights. The establishment of World Refugee Day, held every year on June 20th, works to raise awareness and encourage member nations to work together in discussing the equal share of refugees and asylum seekers.

- The 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, 28 July 1951
- The 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, 4 October 1967
- United Nations General Assembly Resolution, 28 February 2011 **(A/RES/65/194)**
- United Nations General Assembly Resolution, 19 March 2013 **(A/RES/66/133)**

- United Nations General Assembly Resolution, 18 December 2013 **(A/RES/68/141)**
- United Nations General Assembly Resolution, 18 December 2014 **(A/RES/69/152)**
- United Nations General Assembly Resolution, 17 December 2015 **(A/RES/70/135)**
- United Nations General Assembly Resolution, 19 December 2016 **(A/RES/71/172)**

Possible Solutions

Member nations have previously attempted to assimilate refugees and asylum seekers, however disorganization and the disagreement on refugee quotas resulted in no significant progress.

In order to successfully assimilate refugees and asylum seekers into society, member nations must first recognize the benefits these refugees bring when properly integrated. Refugees and asylum seekers can help replenish aging populations, introduce new markets, and meet the demand for labor. Instead of utilizing refugees and asylum seekers as scapegoats to blame economic and social problems, governments will need to work with the public to combat discrimination and xenophobia. This could include the gradual integration of refugees into small communities, companies, etc. By encouraging people from host countries to volunteer at refugee camps, awareness can be raised on the poor conditions refugees live in as well as the discrimination they face.

The system for the protection of refugees is extremely disorganized and broken. Countries would need to prosecute and investigate traffickers. Regulations need to be tightened on officials to ensure fair treatment of the refugees, and aid including clothing, food, medical and educational supplies, and water will have to be given to provide refugees with a safe environment.

By allowing refugees and asylum seekers to participate in educational lessons and job opportunities, member nations can help their transition into society smoother. It is important to note that aid does not stop when refugees and asylum seekers enter society. Checkups will need to be made to confirm their sustainability and success, along with additional resources provided if needed.

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Forum: Advisory Panel on the Question of Human Migration

Issue: Evaluating the legal status of Environmental Migrants

Chair: Reuben Rehan Nielsen

Introduction

The legal status of a refugee, according to the 1951 UN Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol Amendments, defines a refugee as "A person who owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it". At no point is the term environmental migrant, known more colloquially as a climate change refugee, given recognition nor mentioned. This poses an extreme litigious problem, as over recent decades environmental disasters and global warming have forced members of the general populace to abandon their places of residence in search of stability and safety. These environmental migrants, defined as "persons or groups of persons who, for compelling reasons of sudden or progressive changes in the environment that adversely affect their lives or living conditions, are obliged to leave their habitual homes, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, and who move either within their country or abroad", are not protected by the rights proposed by the UN Refugee Convention and therefore are subjected to incarceration, discrimination and repatriation, in accordance with the law as not being considered a legal refugee.

Definition of Key Terms

Environmental Migrant

"Persons or groups of persons who, for compelling reasons of sudden or progressive changes in the environment that adversely affect their lives or living conditions, are obliged to leave their habitual homes, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, and who move either within their country or abroad." This term is often used interchangeably with environmental refugee.

Preventive Resettlement

The relocation of persons or a group of persons taken as a preventive measure against future natural disasters, often as a result of preexistent fears of future natural disasters.

Repatriation

The involuntary return of persons or a group of persons to their home country after seeking   unlawful refuge within a country

Refugee

"A person who owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it"

Pressured Environmental Migrants

Refugees who leave their place of residence as a result of predicted gradual changes to the environment. These migrants believe changes as a result of global warming would leave their residence inhabitable, e.g. the belief that eventual desertification and prolonged drought will cause irreversible changes therefore deciding to migrate before conditions deteriorate.

Imperative Environmental Migrants

Refugees that have been permanently displaced as a result of imminent environmental factors outside of their control, e.g. these persons have been living on a farm however the overuse of cancerous crops has poisoned the land causing this year's harvest to fail. These persons decide to migrate as a result of slow changes to the environment that has become immediate threat to their livelihood.

Temporary Environmental Migrants

Refugees that have been temporarily displaced as a result of a certain event however these refugees are capable or returning to their places of residence given stability and safety is reestablished within their areas.

General Overview

Global Warming

Global Warming is a proven scientific theory that suggests the Earth regulates its temperatures through the atmospheric carbon present. A substantial increase in carbon dioxide proceeds to alter the gaseous composition and thereby increases global temperature. Global warming has been debated as a hoax however, regardless of this, there has been a proven correlation between the intensity and frequency of natural disasters, insidious poisoning of the land and global temperatures to the levels of carbon in the air, suggesting a correlation. Perhaps the largest safety concern as a result of global warming is the displacement of people caused by it, forming environmental migrants

Refugees - Legality and Origin

The concept of a refugee was established after World War 2 when large amounts of people were externally or internally displaced. It was created to provide persons or groups of persons with adequate infrastructure, supplies and healthcare if they were to seek refuge within a foreign country. The concept of a refugee was then expanded on in 1967 when it became apparent that other sections of the world suffered from the same concept. A vital part of the legal status of a refugee is that the refugee is being persecuted for their beliefs or actions before moving to another state. Their persecutors would accept the blame and be forced to make amends to the refugee if paying war reparations. However, in this context nature cannot be the persecutor as nature is unable to make monetary transactions nor persecute a person or groups of persons for their beliefs. There are several types of environmental migrants that each necessitate their own levels of response. A pressured environmental migrant is leaving an area because of predicted insidious changes to the environment while a temporary environmental migrant leaves an area because of sudden changes to the environment that leaves it inhabitable. Environmental migrants have become an area of study over the past decade as the precedence of global warming increases. If the polar icecaps were to melt millions of people would be forced into preventive resettlement creating refugees equal to ten times the world has today. Therefore it is vital that measures are taken to guarantee the protection of these persons, with repercussions as destructive as millions without rights.

Environmental Migrants

The concept of an environmental refugee is hard to grasp as the environment serves as the persecutor of a group of persons and thereby environmental migrants are not given the same treatment as typical refugees. The issue of how nature can be a persecutor is a fundamental ideal that needs to be readdressed for the the topic to be able to grasped as the concept of refugees was built upon by human

persecutors. To what degree can a person be considered a refugee if they are fleeing from nature. One method to think about this is to assume that global warming is a man made cause and label large corporations as the persecutors for their excessive release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Mistreatment of Refugees

As environmental migrants are not given refugee status by the UN they are subject to repatriation by the government they flee to. The UN estimates there are a current total of 200 million environmental migrants currently in the world. It is important to note that environmental migrants are not solely prevalent in third world parts of the world however also in North America and Europe. For example, The Washington Post published a case study of environmental migrants being discriminated against. It showcases US army agents purposefully vandalising supplies left behind for environmental migrants, as a method to "condemn border crossers to suffering, death and disappearance". This is one of several cases which have come to light, cases which force persons suffering from climate change to return to their devastated homeland.

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of event
April, 1938	Guy Stewart Calendar and Charles David Keeling discover the adverse effects of global warming
July 28th, 1951	Refugee Convention - As a result of World War 2 the legal status of a refugee and the requirements a refugee must receive are determined
October 4th, 1967	The legal status of a refugee is amended to include migrants from other parts of the world
1976	Lester Brown proposes the term "Environmental Refugee" and takes the first public estimate of the believed impacts of it

2017	Estimates of total environmental migrants around the world reach 150 million
February 7th, 2017	UN recognises the issue of environmental migrants

UN Involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

UN Involvement, to date, has been more concerned with preventing the further detrimental effects of global warming in communities. The UN has not formally dealt with the issue at hand by resolving it. The UN has however acknowledged that the effects of climate change would have an effect on the human species, particularly women, given the inequalities women face. Climate change has been addressed along with the topic of refugees however refugees with their prosecutors as the environment have not been addressed.

- Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind, 7 February 2017 (**A/RES/71/228**)

- Protection of global climate for present and future generations, 3 April 2009 (**A/RES/43/53**)

- United Nations Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC)

- United Nations Convention on Refugees 1951

- United Nations Convention on Refugees 1967 Protocol Amendments

Possible Solutions

Actions must be taken to define the legal status of an environmental migrant and thereby defining the effects that global warming would bring. A possible method to accomplish this would be to acutely determine key aspects of global warming as the prosecutors force environmental migrants into preventive resettlement, and provide those persons suffering from those key conditions under the umbrella of 'Refugee". Said solution would aid in the process of defining environmental migrants as refugees given that refugees are people who take action because of the oppressive actions of another group. Additionally, another solution would be to directly redetermine the status and legal standings of refugees as a means of encompassing environmental migrants under the term refugee. However, the legal status of a refugee must be in accordance with all country policy to

prevent countries from voting against the issue, given that there must be an absolute consensus for the resolution to pass in APQ. An issue in Africa, and other under developed countries, remains the mass migrations of people to avoid conflict caused by global warming. Despite constant examples of this (Conflict in Sudan and South Sudan, Situation in Libya, Conflict in Myanmar) there is a lack of measure in place to address this aspect of the issue. Thereby it is necessary that policies are put in place to allow the recuperation of persons suffering from environmental change within the entity of Africa itself as 90% of Africans move within the continent when moving from conflict. A possible solution to this would the subsidising of required African essentials and the supply of additional essentials to countries in need of it, as a means of preventing conflict resulting from a lack of resources due to climate change.

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Forum: Advisory Panel on the Question of Human Migration

Issue: Measures to address internal migration, with an emphasis on mitigating the consequences of rural to urban shifts in less developed countries

Chair: Longan Su

Introduction

In the past decades since the second half of last century, there has been an extensive study into internal migration in less developed countries (LEDCs) to identify the socioeconomic changes on that behalf. Internal migrations are often a shift from rural areas to urban areas where migrants tend to seek new opportunities or career paths that could potentially boost their current economic situation. These involve searching for a new job, gaining work experiences, and looking for agricultural prosperity. Most of these migrants are young adults, specifically unmarried males. This transformation of migration results in positive and negative socioeconomic changes. For instance, these migrant workers tend to send in remittances to their relatives in the rural areas. However, this comes at the expense of the health welfares and safety of these workers. Like most internal migrants, these low-income workers endure long hours of work in insecure locations performing dangerous tasks. In some of the more underdeveloped countries where mining is still an occupation, workers are in constant risk of dying by suffocating or by explosions in the caves. Due to these environmental hazards, workers experience immense ramifications and significant loss. These consequences include the growing gap between urban and rural areas due to the loss of the working class from rural areas. Since so many migrants will leave their own homes, presumably in rural counties, many people who are left behind are those who cannot work or are too young to do so. Hence, this leads to an even worse situation for those left behind as they are practically dependent on the income of the migrant workers who are hundreds of miles away.

Definition of Key Terms

Migration

It is a form of geographic mobility between one geographical unit and another generally involving a change of residence from the place of departure to the place of destination.

Internal Migration

Internal migration refers to the movement of people from one place to another, within the boundary of a state of which they are citizens, in order to take up employment or establish residence for a minimum of six months. Movement of internal migrants includes rural to rural, rural to urban, urban to urban, as well as urban to rural flows. The migration duration can be both short and long term.

Urban Area

It is a place where there is a threshold population size of 2000 people or more and show a significant majority of the population who are engaged in non-agricultural occupation. The economic function also exhibits surplus employment and the presence of urban characteristics such as paved streets, electric lighting, sewerage, etc.

General Overview

Current migration situations

Territorial disparities

One obvious impact that internal migration brings is the increase volume of population in urban areas and the decrease volume of population in rural areas. Generally speaking, the trend tends to promote demographic growth and increase the productivity in a urban areas. But, recently, reports have shown that internal migration could cause a qualitative impact. Specifically, these internal migrants can shift and change the "profile" of the city population in its original destination and in its final destination. Thus, this creates what is called a territorial disparity, and this can have a substantial effect on the sociodemographic disparities in different areas. One instance could be if men migrate to cities where there is a high index of femininity, the sex inconsistencies in the population will be altered and possibly reduced. Furthermore, considering the internal migration in terms of the migrant's age, gender, and level of education, age and gender have more significant effects as a result of previous migration patterns and socioeconomic progress. Thus, internal migration could be assessed to widen disparities as young adults migrate into cities, leaving behind a large population of children and women.

Alternative factors leading to population shifts

Territorial inequalities are the main factors for migration, and the search for better opportunities thus become the main cause for internal migration. But, the expected trend of moving from less favorable living conditions to more favorable living conditions is not entirely true. It actually depends on individuals and their specific assessment of determining how their lives should be governed and what other alternatives there are to improve living conditions. For instance, when people are given an opportunity

for employment, which generally are jobs with higher pay, they almost always accept the offer. However, in some cases, other important factors such as education and housing overarch the importance of jobs. In fact, housing is one of the most important reasons in internal migration. This includes the location of homes, the surrounding environment of the homes, the spaces inside, and the accessibility of these homes. So, because of these stark differences in migratory patterns, a single universal analytical model cannot explain internal migration as a whole.
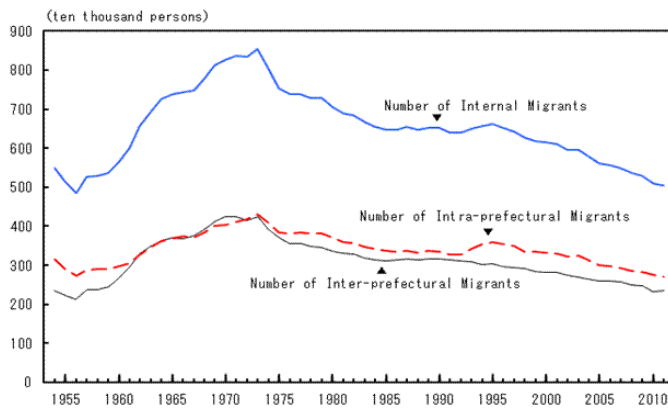
Environmental consequences of adapting to new areas

When migrants are moving to new areas, they will need to adapt to the new environment. As a result, environmental stressors and climatic crises result in an increase in poverty levels as there are higher demands for health care in vulnerable migrants who lack medical resources. Thus, climate adaptations are essential to success when searching for new opportunities. When environmental hazards strike, internal migrants must give up what they do on regular days and worry about whether they will survive the next day. Education and work then becomes their secondary concern, and children start helping out instead of going to school and learning. There have been eight case studies from Asia, Africa and Latin America, and the Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) noted that internal migration from rural to urban was common. Plus, as major environmental crises-like droughts or excessive rainfall-intensify, many lose their homes and close relatives as a result. These environmental stressors pose extreme weather events that worsen their socioeconomic situations, leaving the communities ever so vulnerable.

Measuring urban population dynamics

Population dynamics can be difficult to measure as there are always migrants immigrating and emigrating. But, what internal migration from rural to urban areas indicate is that there has been an estimation of the current urban population and the projected population in the next decade in less developed countries. However, more studies are inevitably necessary for understanding migrant mobility and new forms of urbanization. So, the impacts of internal migration and urbanization in LEDCs remain ambiguous. Internal migration has also decreased over the past decades due to broad based growth economic forces, which are essentially forces that promote the growth in all major income groups, ethnic groups, and women. As a result, it significantly reduced poverty, but the lack of migration could have both positive and negative impacts despite the reduction of poverty. Decreased migrants lead to more communication and more care for elders, children, and women, who are primarily the ones left behind when internal migrants relocate. Conversely, while these migrants are traversing less often, the income that they are receiving is also proportionally lower as most of the poverty reduced are located in urban areas.

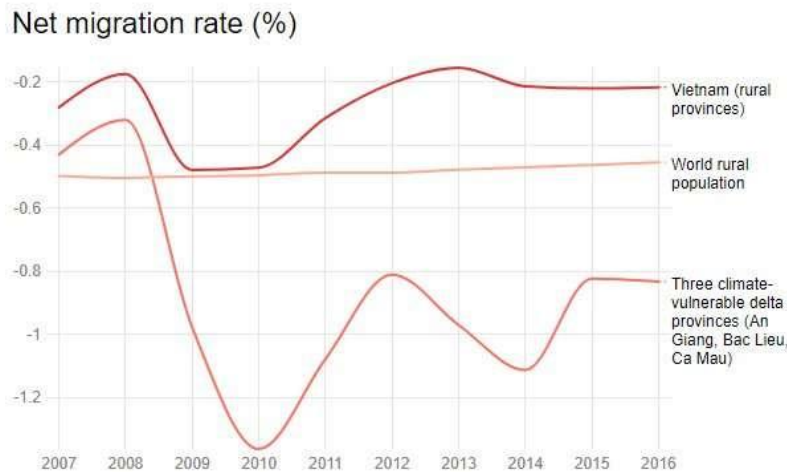Figure 1 Changes of Number of Internal Migrants : 1954 to 2011

(ten thousand persons)

Number of Internal Migrants

Number of Intra-prefectural Migrants

Number of Inter-prefectural Migrants

Caption #1: Changes of Number of Internal Migrants (1954 to 2011)

Major countries with internal migration patterns

Viet Nam

The Vietnamese Mekong Delta is one of the most agriculturally prevalent regions in the world, and it plays a crucial role for exporting rice, shrimp, and fruit. The 18 million inhabitants in delta are extremely susceptible to climate changes. As climate change becomes more severe, migrants have to flee because they tend to lose everything they have. For instance, over the past decades, more than 1.7 million residents have emigrated into urban areas to look for a new start. Conversely, only around 700,000 people have arrived, which is a big issue because the areas become desertedThis alerting migration crisis is even more than double the national average, and substantially higher in more climate-susceptible areas. These people are known as climate change refugees, except they migrate internally. Moreover, in 2015, a disastrous drought swept through Kiên Giang, a province in Viet Nam, and destroyed more than 160,000 hectares of crops. As a result, 1 in 100 residents left and the national net migration rate increased drastically.

Net migration rate (%)

Data from the General Statistics Office of Vietnam and World Bank, 2017

Caption #1: Changes of Migrant Population Due to a Climate Crisis

India

There are different trends of internal migration in India. Some of them are within states, and others that are between different states. The data indicate that the majority of internal migrants in India are from rural areas who migrate to more urbanized areas. Some of the main reasons specifically in India include the lack of proper employment for males in rural areas, which results in a shift for new opportunities and better job careers. Another one includes marriage for the females, in which the wives and husbands relocate to urban areas. Moreover, one benefit in India of internal migration entails the rebalancing of the economy and cultures are more intermixed with different people from different states. However, in India, the disparity in population requires a need for a balanced development across all areas, and so more focus is needed to develop rural areas and better plans to overcome the negative consequences of internal migration from rural to urban areas.

Latin America & the Caribbean

One of the most important factors of internal movements in Latin America and the Caribbean is the lack of land for housing in the cities. This lack of land for housing in central areas means that cities have no choice but to expand out horizontally, into areas that could be considered countryside or rural. This is an intricate process that can express itself in many ways. For instance, in the history of Latin America, there has been rapid expansions outwards of cities where cheaper or more accessible land for occupation has attracted many immigrants from all over the country. These mainly include poor immigrants from outskirts of the country or the countryside where their main occupation is related

agriculture. Thus, as an effect, this has indicated emigrants leaving urban areas despite the seemingly better living conditions and better incomes. Fast forwarded decades later, the rapid expansion of urban cities created further neighboring suburbs where the incomes became lower and the standard living conditions became lower.

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of event
July 1st, 2000	IOM (International Organization for Migration) started a program in assisting more than 1.2 million internally displaced Afghans with medical examinations and cultural orientation courses
August 20th, 2003	Director General and the heads of five other international organizations (ILO, UNHCR, UNHCHR, UNODC, and UNCTAD) formed the Geneva Migration group to share information and facilitate inter-agency cooperation
March 27th, 2016	Viet Nam's great migration due to severe drought

UN Involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

The UN has taken cautious attempts at resolving this issue, and some of those resolutions are listed below. Because of these resolutions, the UN body and others have done a lot to mitigate the problems of the intricate interplay between cities and migrations:

- Commission on Population and Development, 7 April 2008 (**E/CN.9/2008/285)**
- International Migration and Development, 21 December 2016 (**A/RES/71/237**)
- International Migration Report, 9 January (**ST/ESA/SER.A/403)**

Possible Solutions

Since so many people travel to urban areas to search for job opportunities, most of the workforce is being depleted in the rural areas, which causes severe economic disparities and a lack of support for those who remain in rural areas. So, there needs to be some way of reintegrating the urban population into the rural population while maintaining the wellbeing of both sides. Another way to tackle this would be to incorporate a feedback/support system to rural areas. This would be a way to deliver resources back to the rural communities

and as a way for communication. This will allow for a prolonged period of stability within the community and thus create less internal problems. As previously mentioned, the rest of the population left behind in rural areas are mostly comprised of elders, women, and children. So, they have no way of making a living completely by themselves, which is why organizations should work together to set up facilities to help with the remaining populations in times of crises. Another solution less feasible, but still plausible, is to shift jobs to rural areas. For instance, start constructions of public facilities that are potentially beneficial for the rural community.

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