

# WORLD HUMANITARIAN DATA AND TRENDS 2014



## Global challenges and risks

In the past, conflicts and natural disasters have been seen as the main drivers of humanitarian need. They are often treated as discrete events, with little analysis of the underlying causes and warning signs. In the twenty-first century, the risk landscape is changing more rapidly than ever. Global risks are recognized as increasingly central to humanitarian crises. They can make people more vulnerable and prevent them from building the resilience necessary to cope with shocks. The protracted and recurrent crises we see around the world today are a direct result of this vulnerability.

### Climate change



**BASELINE:** 2013 was the fourth consecutive year when economic losses caused by disasters exceeded \$100 billion. Climate-related disasters, primarily floods and storms, caused the displacement of over 20.7 million people.

**PROJECTION:** Economic losses due to natural disasters now regularly exceed \$100 billion annually and are projected to double by 2030. One billion people could be displaced by climate change between now and 2050.



### Food security



**BASELINE:** Between 2010 and 2014, 805 million people were estimated to be chronically undernourished, representing a decrease of more than 100 million over the last decade.

**PROJECTION:** The hunger target of the Millennium Development Goals – halving the proportion of undernourished people in developing countries by 2015 – is within reach.



### Energy



**BASELINE:** More than 1.3 billion people still lack access to electricity, with more than 90 per cent of them located in sub-Saharan Africa and developing Asia.

**PROJECTION:** Global energy demand is expected to rise by one-third by 2030. Electricity demand alone will increase by 70 per cent by 2035, with China and India accounting for over 50 per cent of that demand.



### Migration



**BASELINE:** Globally, there were 232 million international migrants in 2013. Of these, nearly 59 per cent lived in developed regions. In 2014, at least 4,077 migrants died, with approximately 75 per cent of these deaths occurring in the Mediterranean.

**PROJECTION:** Migration will be affected by future economic development, and as economic gaps decrease, the majority of resulting movement is likely to be short-distance and short-term.



### Health



**BASELINE:** In 2013, nearly 800 women died every day from maternal causes. Estimates indicate that one child dies every 20 seconds from a water-borne illness, such as diarrhoea.

**PROJECTION:** By 2015, malaria mortality rates are projected to decrease by 52 per cent while tuberculosis mortality rate will decrease by 50 per cent.



### Population



**BASELINE:** The global population in 2013 was estimated to be 7.2 billion people.

**PROJECTION:** By 2050, the global population is expected to rise to 9.6 billion people. Virtually all population growth will take place in less developed countries and among the poorest populations.



## Technology



**BASELINE:** In 2012, 34 per cent of the global population had access to the internet, and 75 per cent had access to a mobile phone.

**PROJECTION:** By 2030, half of the world's population will have access to the internet.



## Poverty and inequality



**BASELINE:** In 2010, 20.5 per cent of the global population was estimated to be living below the poverty line (\$1.25 per day).

**PROJECTION:** By 2015, 15.5 per cent of the global population is estimated to be living in poverty. By 2030, it is estimated that 60 per cent of people will be middle class (middle class being defined as earning between \$10–100 per day).



## Urbanization



**BASELINE:** In 2013, it was estimated that 54 per cent of the world's population lived in urban areas.

**PROJECTION:** By 2050, 66 per cent of the world's population could live in urban areas, adding 2.5 billion people to urban populations. India, China and Nigeria will account for 37 per cent of the projected growth of global urban population between 2014 and 2050.



## Water scarcity



**BASELINE:** An estimated 768 million people remain without access to an improved source of water and 2.5 billion people remain without access to improved sanitation.

**PROJECTION:** Global water demand is projected to increase by 55 per cent by 2050, mainly because of growing demands from manufacturing, thermal electricity generation and domestic use. By 2050, more than 40 per cent of the global population will be living in areas of severe water stress.



## Youth



**BASELINE:** In 2009, youth unemployment peaked with 75.8 million young people unemployed. In 2013, youth unemployment was estimated at 12.6 per cent of the workforce, comprising 73.4 million young people.

**PROJECTION:** By 2018, the global youth unemployment rate is projected to rise to 12.8 per cent, with the Middle East and North Africa becoming the regions with the highest youth unemployment rate.



Decreasing concern



Increasing concern

