



HAZARDS & IMPACT

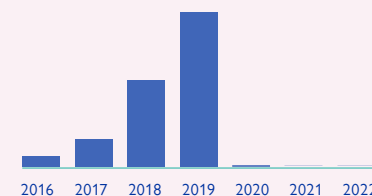
Paraguay is a vulnerable country to climate change impacts due to a combination of political, geographic and social factors- It ranked 93rd out of 181 countries in the [ND-GAIN Index, 2020](#). Between 2016 to 2022, the country recorded 98,000 internal displacements, primarily caused by floods (95.9%) ([IDMC, 2023](#)).

Additionally, drought episodes in rural areas affected the livelihoods of vulnerable populations and encouraged internal migration, mainly to cities, which contributed to a population growth of 27% between 1960 and 2020, directly impacting housing conditions ([World Bank, 2021](#)). Studies have also found that the impacts of climate change do not always result in migration. In fact, a recent participatory study in Mbya Guarani indigenous communities of the eastern region revealed that 3 out of 10 households stated “that they had

not taken any action other than to remain in the community under conditions of deprivation” ([IOM, 2023](#)).

Some effects of climate change already underway and projected for the country include extreme events such as heat waves, droughts and more intense and frequent rainfall, floods and wildfires. Paraguay faces high risks related to disasters and climate change, particularly due to its adaptation challenges ([Global Risk Index, 2022](#)) and the high economic dependence on the agricultural sector which account for 20% of its Gross Domestic Product and relies on the natural environment ([PNACC, 2022](#)).

NEW INTERNAL DISPLACEMENTS DUE TO DISASTERS (2016 - 2022)



98K Internal Displacements

13 Reported Events

Source: IDMC, 2023





NATIONAL FRAMEWORKS AND COMMITMENTS THAT HAVE INTEGRATED THE TOPIC

The [National Adaptation Plan \(2022\)](#) recognizes climate-induced mobility as one of the effects resulting from climate change. It acknowledges the need to reduce the vulnerability of indigenous communities to climate change and promote their adaptation. It also proposes the construction of resilient infrastructure to protect cities vulnerable to flooding.

[Law No. 6984/2022 on Migration](#), in its Article 22, contemplates the organized transfer of population from other countries in a crisis situation, due, among other reasons, to disasters.

The [update of the Nationally Determined Contribution \(2021\)](#) emphasizes the importance of addressing losses and damages associated with climate change that result in mobility.

The [National Policy on Disaster Risk Management \(2018\)](#) promotes the integration of migrants and displaced persons in policies and actions for disaster risk management and reduction and migration management.

[Third National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change \(2017\)](#) mentions rural-to-urban migration, migration as a cause of deforestation and displacement due to flooding in the Paraguay and Parana rivers.

The [National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy \(2015\)](#) highlights migration and the expansion of cities in flood plains, associated with poor construction, are some of the reasons for the increasing exposure of the population to extreme events and the increase in the subsequent increase in vulnerability.

IOM ACTIONS TO ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE MOBILITY IN PARAGUAY



Production of evidence on migration in contexts of environmental degradation, climate change and disasters: **Within the framework of the project:** “Strengthening Governmental Capacities in Paraguay to Address the Mobility of Indigenous Communities in the Context of Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Deforestation” (2021 - 2023), IOM conducted a participatory diagnosis with a gender approach on migration associated with climate change, environmental degradation and deforestation. It also implemented the project: “Strengthening the evidence base on migration, environment and climate change to improve IOM’s work in South America (2023 - 2024)”.



Technical support in the development of adaptation plans, risk and emergency management, planned relocation and management of immobile populations: IOM developed a manual for approaching indigenous communities in the context of mobility. It also consolidated a manual for the preparation of social diagnoses to be implemented with indigenous communities affected by climate change, environmental degradation and deforestation with a human mobility perspective.



Capacity building of communities to support adaptation to environmental and climate processes and promote sustainable activities: IOM provided assistance for the development of proposals from indigenous communities for the implementation of productive programs, together with the Instituto Paraguayo del Indígena.

MILESTONES 2023 (REGIONAL AND GLOBAL AGENDA)

1st & 2nd round of the Working Network on Migration, Environment, Disasters and Climate Change of the South American Conference on Migration, SACM

May 19 and August

Meeting of the South American Conference on Migration, SACM

September 7 and 8

Forum of Environment Ministers 2023

October 23 - 25

Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week

October 23 - 27

COP28

30 November - 12 December



This fact sheet has been developed in the framework of the regional project “Strengthening the evidence base on migration, environment and climate change in South America”, with the support of IOM’s Migration Resource Allocation Committee (MiRAC), 2023 - 2024.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: [ROBUENOSAIRE.S.IOM.INT/EN/MIGRATION-AND-CLIMATE-CHANGE](https://robuenosaires.iom.int/en/migration-and-climate-change) | CONTACT INFORMATION: IOMASUNCION@IOM.INT.

