



WHAT IS A CLIMATE REFUGEE?

There is no internationally recognized definition of climate refugees, however, **climate refugees are generally understood to be migrants who have been forced to leave their homes due to the sudden or gradual impacts of climate change.**

HOW DOES CLIMATE IMPACT DISPLACEMENT OTHERWISE?

Not only can climate change be a direct contributor to the displacement, but **in many of today's conflicts causing forced displacement climate change is a "threat multiplier."** A key example is Syria, where a 5-year drought preceded the civil war. Some experts assert that the devastation and scarcity of resources caused by the drought exacerbated socio-political tensions that led to the war. According to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, **"Climate change [is] now found to be the key factor accelerating all other drivers of forced displacement."**



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Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) envisions a world where refugees and other forcibly displaced people attain protection, opportunity, and participation. JRS seeks to accompany, serve, and advocate the cause of forcibly displaced people, that they may heal, learn, and determine their own future.

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CLIMATE AND DISPLACEMENT

“The cry of the earth and the cry of the poor are becoming increasingly serious and alarming.”

POPE FRANCIS



