

# CLIMATE & DISPLACEMENT

## HOW DOES CLIMATE IMPACT DISPLACEMENT?



Flooding in Maban, South Sudan.

Climate change and the weather events caused by climate change, are having a *significant* impact in pushing people to move against their will. Millions of people are being forcibly displaced from their homes.

Those who are displaced by climate and weather events don't have the same protections – many will not have the same rights to seek asylum or refugee status as the global infrastructure to support them does not yet exist.

## CLIMATE EVENTS ARE A DEVASTATING PUSH FACTOR

“Climate change [is] now found to be the key factor accelerating all other drivers of forced displacement.” - UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

**60 PERCENT**

of refugees come from or are living in the most climate-vulnerable countries.



**UP TO 1.2 BILLION**

people could be displaced due to climate change impacts by 2050.

“  
**THE CRY OF THE EARTH  
AND THE CRY OF THE  
POOR ARE BECOMING  
INCREASINGLY SERIOUS  
AND ALARMING.**”

— POPE FRANCIS



Result of landslides and flooding in Zimbabwe.

## WHAT DOES CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING TELL US ABOUT CLIMATE REFUGEES?

In his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis notes that climate is causing people, especially the poor, to leave their homes. He writes, "There has been a tragic rise in the number of migrants seeking to flee from the growing poverty caused by environmental degradation," calling all of us to take responsibility for our brothers and sisters who have experienced this loss.

**Heed Pope Francis call:  
Care for our common home  
and those most in need.**

*JRS helping IDP's cultivate crops in Nigeria.*



## CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTS EVERYONE

**23 MILLION PEOPLE**

annually have been forcibly displaced by weather-related incidents.



**200 MILLION PEOPLE**

will be in need of humanitarian assistance by 2050, if there is not dramatic climate change mitigation by 2050.



**YOU CAN HELP THE MILLIONS OF REFUGEES  
AFFECTED BY THE CLIMATE CRISIS.**



[jrsusa.org/climate-push](https://www.jrsusa.org/climate-push)

**Learn more at  
[jrsusa.org/changethetide](https://www.jrsusa.org/changethetide)**