

## Panel 5.3 Integrating migration into adaptation strategies

Avoiding Maladaptation to Better Manage Climate – Induced Migration in Asia Pacific

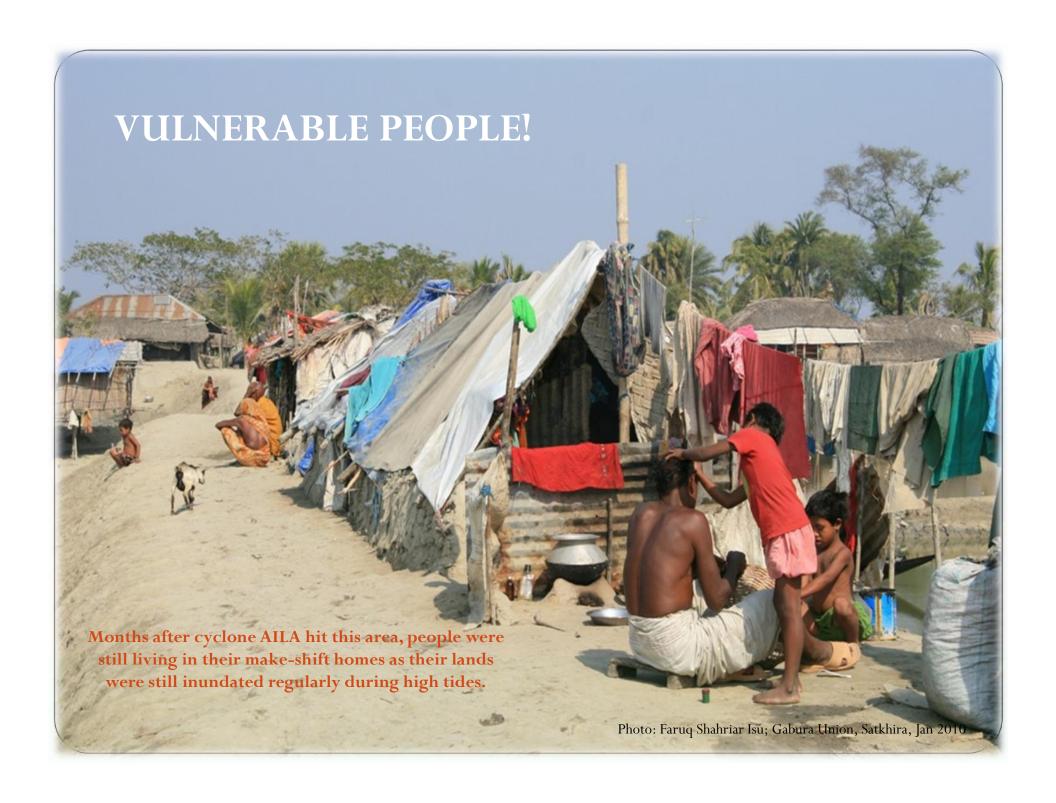


#### Why should we talk of migration?

- Why should domestic, regional and international efforts be concerned with environmental migration rather than, say, extreme poverty?
- What type of arguments can be employed that show the importance of designing governance mechanisms to prevent and protect environmental migrations?
- Is there a real link with adaptation?







### Going beyond headlines and alarmist projections!

- Migration is usually perceived as a failure of communities and individual to adapt to extreme events or environmental degradation
- Migration represents a threat implying security based discourses
- But in most of the case migration is an adaptation strategy

### The understanding of environmental migration

Walter Kälin, distinguished among five scenarios of environmental migration:

- 1. "sudden-onset disasters"
- 2. "slow-onset environmental
- 3. "so-called 'sinking' small island states";
- 4. areas designated by governments as "high-risk zones too dangerous for human habitation on account of environmental dangers"; and
- 5. displacement following "unrest seriously disturbing public order, violence or even armed conflict" that "may be triggered, at least partially, by a decrease in essential resources due to climate change."

#### Diverse Processes...

- Migration can be planned at an early stage or it can occur spontaneously when people face a "natural" disaster (which, sometimes, could have been foreseen, managed, or even prevented).
- It can also be temporary or definitive.
- In many circumstances, not everybody moves, especially in scenario 2 (slow-onset environmental degradation): the most vulnerable are often unable to afford displacement.

# Environmental migration is not only a international phenomenon and need a local integration

- Contrary to a common misrepresentation, empirical studies (in particular the EACH-FOR project(www.each-for.eu), which included case studies in 23 countries or regions) show that most environmental migration is internal.
- Migrating to a neighboring country is a second choice, while "South-North" migration remains exceptional.
- Need to empower local adaptation plan

### How Maladaptation can help integrating migration into adaptation strategies?

Maladaptation is defined as

- Inadequate resettlement, land management and resource distribution are some reasons where the capacity of communities, families and individuals are decreased sometimes forcing them to move.
- So by defining maladaptation and what could be maladaptative programs/ strategies we could provide a comprehensive understanding of migration.

