

Risk Index for Climate Displacement (RICD)

ANTICIPATING CLIMATE DISPLACEMENT RISK
TO SUPPORT DECISIONS AND ACTION



What is it?

The Risk Index for Climate Displacement (RICD) is a decision support tool co-created by IOM's Climate Mobility Innovation Lab (CMIL), in collaboration with a broad network of government, scientific, academic, and other partners in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Pacific.

RICD integrates a national-level analysis building on broad-scale data on hazard, exposure, and vulnerability data with local-level, people-centred insights to anticipate climate displacement. It identifies where displacement is most likely to take place in the future and what drives it, helping governments and partners invest in adaptation, risk reduction and preparedness. It serves as the engine for CMIL's Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF), providing advanced data analytics to underpin targeted preparedness and adaptation finance.

Geographic coverage

After a pilot phase (2024-2025) RICD coverage is progressively being expanded across regions.

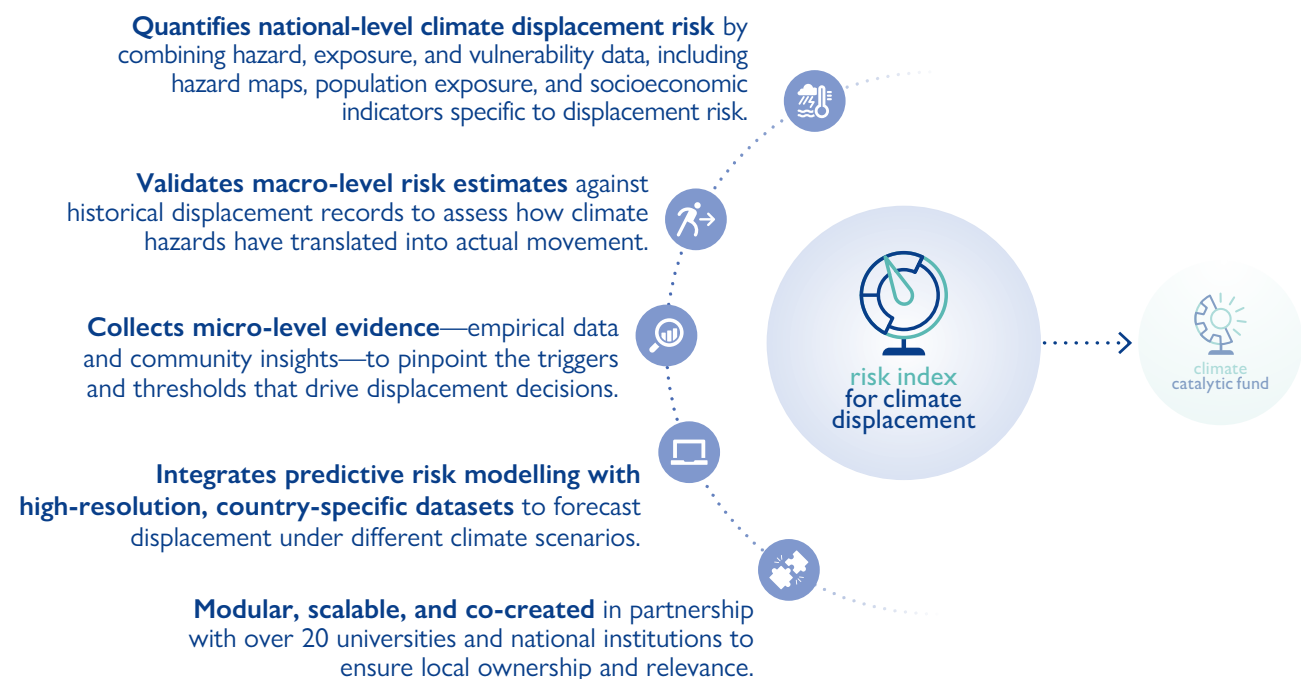
- **Current Implementation:** Indonesia, Fiji, Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, Thailand, Uganda, and Vanuatu
- **Expansion expected in other countries and regions.**

In each country, RICD maps climate displacement risk and informs investments for adaptation and resilience, including through the CCF.

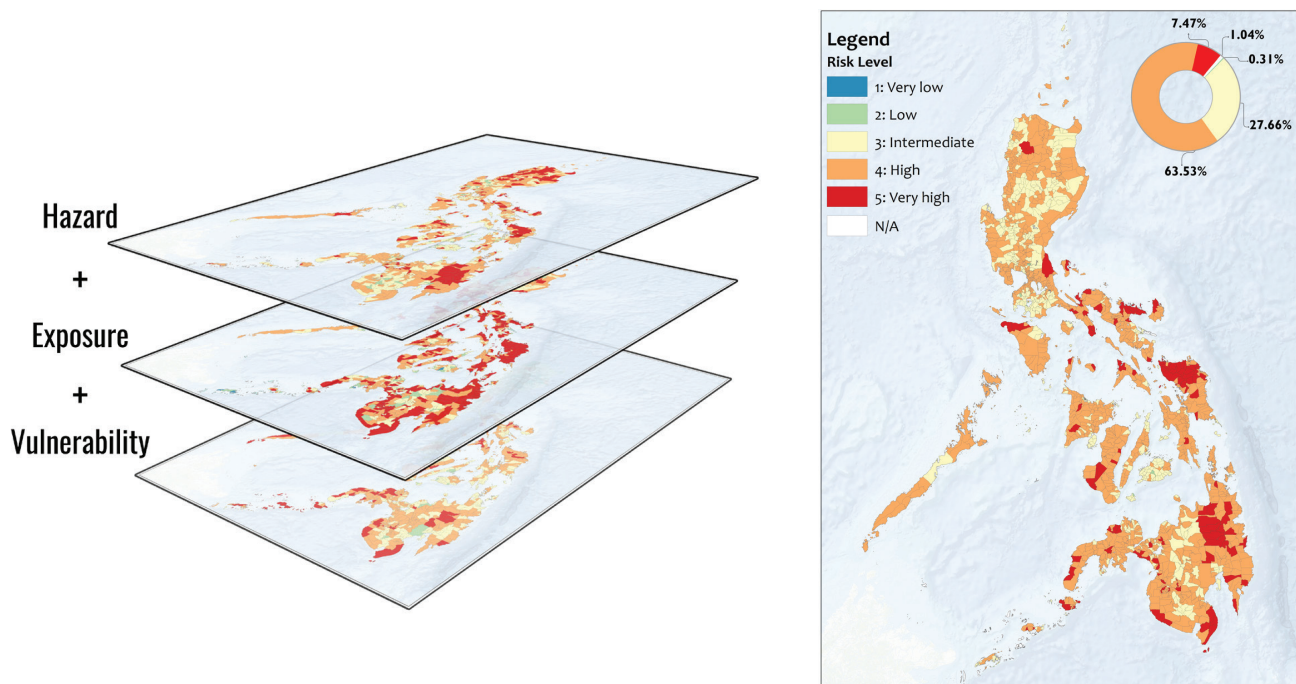


From Risk Analysis to Local Action: The climate Mobility Pipeline

Filling the data-to-action gap



Macro-level Analysis - Identifying Displacement Risk Hotspots



The RICD macro-level component maps climate displacement hotspots by assessing three key dimensions:

- **Hazard:** Identification of areas with a high intensity or frequency of climate-related hazards, including floods, storms, droughts, and heatwaves, using historical data and modelled return periods.
- **Exposure:** Measurement of the number and density of people living in hazard-prone areas, based on spatially disaggregated population data.
- **Vulnerability:** Evaluation of community sensitivity and adaptive capacity using indicators such as climate-sensitive livelihoods, housing quality, water security, food security, and others.

Through this process, each subnational administrative unit receives a **risk score**, enabling classification into risk categories. This allows for comparison across areas and identification of those where displacement risk is highest. The risk scores are then compared with historical displacement records to validate the findings and identify priority locations for action.

Micro-level Analysis - Understanding Triggers and Thresholds

The micro-level component builds on the macro-level analysis to understand the mechanisms and conditions that lead to actual displacement in identified risk hotspots: when, why, and how displacement occurs. It applies a flexible, mixed-methods, community-centred approach that includes:

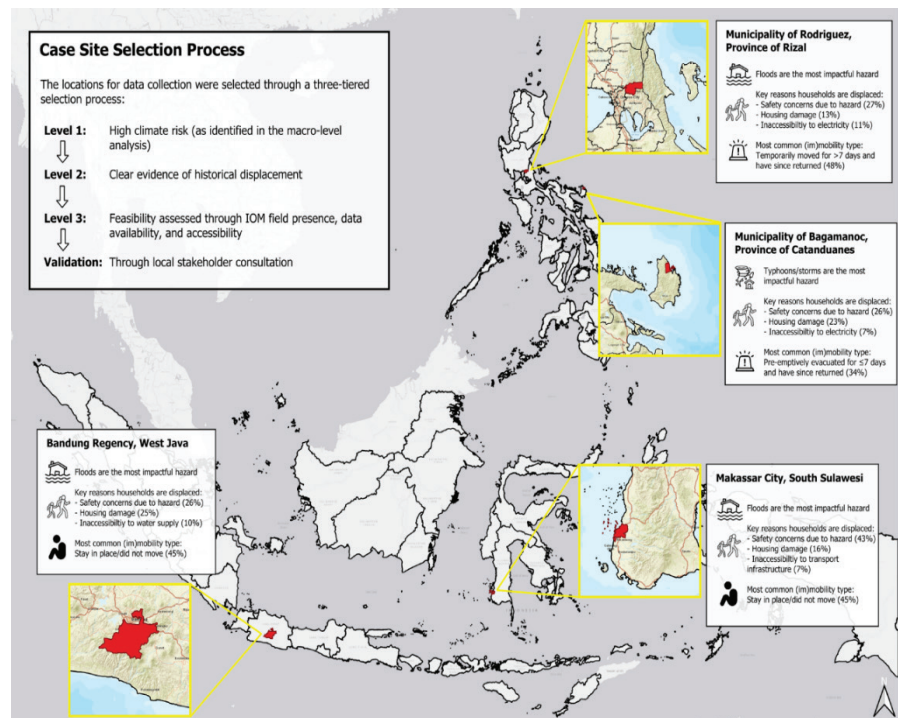
- **Household Surveys:** Conducted with households (both previously displaced and not) to compare experiences, decision-making processes, and triggers of displacement, and to identify conditions and patterns of vulnerability.
- **Key Informant Interviews and Focus Group Discussions:** Conducted with local leaders, authorities, and community stakeholders to contextualise household experiences and better understand governance dynamics.

Core themes explored include:

- Impacts of climate hazards on housing, livelihoods, and essential services.
- Mobility types (temporary or permanent displacement and migration, return, and immobility).
- Agency in mobility decisions: the extent to which people move or stay in a forced or voluntary manner.
- Past experiences with displacement and perceptions of future risk.
- Adaptation strategies, resilience, and coping capacities in the face of climate impacts.

Micro-level data are analysed to identify factors that correlate with displacement. Qualitative findings provide insights into displacement tipping points and help validate and enrich quantitative patterns.

The site-specific displacement triggers and thresholds identified through this analysis can then be modelled under future climate scenarios, enabling the development of predictive models, the spatial identification and quantification of populations most at risk of displacement, and the evaluation of the effectiveness of available operational responses.



RICD Value Addition

- **Data-to-action pipeline:** RICD directly informs planning, community-level action, and opens the doors to blended finance.
- **Locally grounded:** Tools and assessments are co-created with national and local partners to ensure ownership and relevance.
- **Flexible and scalable:** Designed to expand to new hazards and locations.
- **Capacity building:** Enhances local data ownership, institutional foresight, and technical capacity.

RICD supports governments, practitioners, and donors to allocate resources more effectively, and build long-term resilience to displacement risks.

Use & Applications

RICD supports:

- National adaptation, risk reduction, and preparedness plans;
- Targeting of finance and programmatic interventions;
- Monitoring, evaluation, and learning for climate displacement initiatives;
- In the future, RICD may support more specialised use cases, including the modelling of the impacts of adaptation investments.

RICD insights are being used to guide CCF pilots, national adaptation dialogues, and Climate Mobility Investment Plans for countries to access large-scale climate financing.

RICD Actors

- **IOM CMIL:** Strategic oversight and technical systems
- **National Partners:** Data provision/collection, analysis and validation, implementation, and local policy engagement
- **Experts and technical partners:** Co-development of methodologies and tools, data analysis, and validation

IOM's Climate Offer

IOM's Climate Offer provides an integrated framework that supports Member States and communities in averting, minimising, and addressing climate-related mobility. Through policy and governance support, the Climate Mobility Innovation Labs (CMIL), and Climate Mobility Investment Plans, it delivers a practical package of solutions that connects evidence, innovation, financing, and operational delivery at scale. Delivered through IOM's global network of 171 country offices and led by the Climate Action Division, the Climate Offer translates policy commitments into concrete action on the ground. Together, these components form an end-to-end approach that translates policy into sustainable action at scale to climate mobility.

Regional Partners



ICPAC



PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM

Research Partners

Asia Pacific:

- University of the Philippines Resilience Institute, Philippines
- Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand
- Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore
- University of Fiji, Fiji
- National Institute of Natural Hazards (NINH), China
- University of Indonesia, Indonesia
- National University of Vanuatu, Vanuatu

Africa:

- CIMA Research Foundation, Italy
- University of Juba, South Sudan
- John Garang Memorial University, South Sudan
- Upper Nile University, South Sudan
- The Sudd Institute, South Sudan
- Institute of Environment and Climate (ICE), SIMAD University, Somalia
- Center for Climate Change Research & Innovation, Makerere University, Uganda

Contact

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Risk Index for Climate Displacement

RICD Conceptual Framework

