IOM unpacks the mobility and risk reduction nexus in 19 areas of intervention, articulated following the different phases of the migration management cycle (depicted below, with some examples of mobility-based DRR).

Each area of work is described in one of the Compendium Thematic Briefs. Together, the briefs frame a comprehensive operational approach to Disaster Risk Reduction, Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation from a mobility perspective.

**Policy**

The Compendium is part of a wide-ranging effort to expand the recognition of mobility as an essential component of the DRR discourse. Further efforts are needed to fully understand its complex influence on the vulnerability and resilience of the people at risk, as well as their communities of origin and destination.

IOM has joined efforts with Governments and other partners in referencing displacement, migration, evacuations and relocations in the Chair Summary of the 2013 Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction, and will further work to reflect the complexity of the mobility-risk nexus in the successor framework to the HFA in 2015.

**Models & indicators**

Improved understanding of the migration-environment nexus should rely on theoretical models that take into account the socio-economic costs and benefits of mobility from a DRR perspective.

Defining mobility-based indicators of vulnerability and resilience is an area of ongoing work expected to help articulate and measure the correlation between risk and mobility and better formulate policies:

- **Mobility as an indicator of exposure** (e.g. % of migrants at risk, esp. in urban areas);
- **Mobility as an indicator of resilience** (e.g. % of people having access to distant resources for recovery);
- **Capacity to manage mobility as an indicator of preparedness** (e.g. % of population at risk covered by evacuation plans); and
- **Costs of forced migration as a component of disaster losses** (e.g. loss of productivity in working days due to displacement).

**Integrated approaches**

We must work together to move away from expensive response-based models toward risk reduction models that promote the preservation of life and livelihoods, while harnessing the economic potential of migration.

Supporting a focus on human mobility will contribute to cross-cutting strategies for risk reduction and disaster response, and will encourage early investment in risk reduction through mobility options and better preparedness.

For more information on IOM drr activities and to download the full compendium, please visit: [www.iom.int/cms/drr](http://www.iom.int/cms/drr)
LINKING MOBILITY AND RISK

Mobility and disasters are intrinsically linked

Conflicts, political instability, disasters and environmental changes often produce ‘migration crises’: massive population movements generating acute vulnerabilities for the affected population and long-term challenges, that can also jeopardize hard-won development gains.

According to IDMC data, produced with IOM’s support, between 2008 and 2012 144 million people were forced from their homes in 125 countries by violent natural events such as earthquakes and floods.

Over the last 4 years, IOM has been addressing the mobility implications of disasters with over 250 projects completed, 700 million USD invested and 23 million people assisted worldwide. The Organization’s experience demonstrates that solutions exist to reduce the risk and the impact of disasters.

The urgency of working with practitioners and policy-makers to tackle the root causes of vulnerability becomes more obvious with each disaster. Ensuring proper understanding of the disaster and mobility nexus will help taking the next step towards safer and more resilient societies.

MOBILITY-BASED DRR OBJECTIVES

• Reducing the drivers of forced migration;
• Facilitating mobility as a preventive and responsive strategy, ensuring people move in a humane and orderly fashion and protecting and supporting their livelihoods while on the move;
• Ending displacement by addressing their long-term needs in a sustainable manner.

Mobility: determining resilience and vulnerability

Mobility can reduce risk by allowing households to avoid, absorb, and recover from the impact of hazards.

• It helps diversifying and strengthening livelihoods (e.g. labour migration);
• It helps managing environmental risk (e.g. pastoralist communities);
• It can save the lives of people threatened by hazards (e.g. evacuations).

Mobility can increase risk by affecting the ability of both mobile populations and hosting communities to mobilize assets that are essential for a safe life.

• Mobile people can have limited access to services and opportunities and a reduced understanding of their environment (e.g. displaced by disasters);
• Population movements can overwhelm the carrying capacity of receiving ecosystems and the ability of institutions to provide essential services, potentially leading to environmental degradation and socio-economic segregation (e.g. informal urban settlements).

Lack of mobility is itself a major cause of vulnerability: trapped populations are among the groups that suffer the worst consequences from natural hazards.

In order to realize its full risk-reduction potential, both as a preventive livelihood strategy and as a responsive life-saving measure, mobility needs to be properly managed.

Country profiles

The DRR Compendium presents 33 country profiles from 5 continents showcasing IOM efforts to reduce disaster risk at the country level (as depicted in the map above).

Each Profile provides details on main mobility- and disaster-related challenges at the country level as well as an overview of IOM programmes and operations and the Organization’s contributions to the host Governments’ leadership and planning.