

**International Climate-Affected
Migrant Immigration Policy and
Practices and their Applicability in
the Canadian Context**

By

Meghan Reid
Diploma in Social Work, Mount Royal
University, 2015
Bachelor of Social Work, University of
Calgary, 2017

A Project Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of

MASTER OF ARTS – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

in the School of Public Administration

©Meghan Reid, 2024
University of Victoria

All rights reserved. This project may not be reproduced in whole or in part, by photocopy or other means, without the permission of the author.

Defense Committee

Supervisor: Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly
School of Public Administration, University of Victoria

Second Reader: Dr. Helga Hallgrímsdóttir
School of Public Administration, University of Victoria

Chair: Dr. Lynn Siemens
School of Public Administration, University of Victoria

Acknowledgements

This project was researched and written from the traditional Treaty 7 territory named Moh'kinsstis by the first inhabitants of this land, which comprises the Blackfoot Confederacy including the Siksika, Kainai, Piikani, îethka Nakoda Nations: Chiniki, Bearspaw, Goodstoney and Tssut'ina Nation. It is also the home to Otipemisiwak Métis Nation within Alberta Districts 5 and 6 (adapted from Calgary Foundation, 2024, para. 3) in what is settler-named Calgary.

Thank you to all of those throughout the globe who are contributing their thoughts, experiences, and insights into this critical issue of climate-affected migration and sharing them to account for the world's most impacted populations who are disproportionately impacted by the climate-affected migration.

Thank you to my supervisors of this project, Dr. Kimberley Speers and Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly for their oversight at different stages of this research. To my family, friends and community: thank you so much for your guidance and unwavering support throughout this process. Finally, a heart-felt acknowledgement of those who have contributed knowledge and time through the interviews that shape this research.

Executive Summary

Introduction

This project seeks to answer the following central research question: *in climate-affected migrant immigration policy what international promising practices and policies are emerging that could be applicable in the Canadian context?* This is done through comparing international frameworks and stakeholders against current Canadian policy direction for climate-affected migration. In addition, the project documents the contribution that the Canadian government is making towards adaptation and climate mitigation strategies and seeks to extend exploring potential migration options for international climate-affected migrants.

The objectives of the study include:

- Examining existing international policies and promising practices related to the inclusion of climate-affected migrants in policies.
- Identifying if current Canadian immigration policies provide a framework for the inclusion of people experiencing climate-affected migration.
- Exploring if policy reform or other practices in other jurisdictions has led to equitable social infrastructure that evidence supports that are tailored to climate migrants
- Providing recommendations on equitable and inclusive policy options for climate migrants.

Methodology and Methods

The research methodology is grounded in a postpositivist, interpretive approach, utilizing qualitative methods to explore international promising practices applicable to the Canadian context. Chapter Three (p. 23) forms the foundation of the study through a comprehensive literature review. It is then then complimented by key informant interviews with international civil servants whom have knowledge of climate-affected migration.

The data is presented across three findings chapters beginning with Chapter Four (p. 39) which includes an international and regional jurisdictional scan. Chapter Five (p. 47) comprises a detailed stakeholder analysis, and Chapter Six (p. 59) concludes the findings with a Canada-specific jurisdictional scan. The findings chapters build on one another, assessing international practices and stakeholders to determine their roles in the Canadian context. Additionally, they evaluate the feasibility of promising international practices to influence Canadian policy options regarding climate-affected migration. The data analysis led to key findings, which are discussed below.

Key Findings

Chapter Four (p. 39) discusses how international and regional policies mainly focus on sudden climate events and environmental disasters. These policies often address internal displacement, especially in countries in the Global South. While international organizations work collaboratively to address climate-affected migration, they lack the authority to enforce policy changes. One notable finding is that the United States has started developing a climate-affected migration policy, but it has not yet become law (Rep. Velázquez, 2019, para's. 1-3).

Chapter Five (p. 47) emphasizes that individual countries have the final say over the policies they implement. International organizations can only influence these decisions when supported by legal frameworks, like the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. There is a significant power imbalance between countries in the Global North and Global South, and agreements among stakeholders tend to occur only when countries have shared values, goals and beliefs.

Chapter Six (p. 59) focuses on Canada, revealing that the country currently lacks any policies for international climate-affected migration and has no plans to address this issue soon.

Canada's approach to policy-making is top-down, emphasizing immigration enforcement agencies in its planning. Immigration levels are determined primarily by Canada's internal needs, often prioritizing economic growth, and the country has been reducing admissions across all categories except for economic pathways. The insights gained from Chapters Four, Five and Six will inform the project's final chapter on options and recommendations (p. 80).

Options to Consider and Recommendations

Options to consider

To address the challenges posed by international climate-affected migration, several policy options for Canadian policy-makers to consider are presented, which can be seen in Chapter Eight (p. 80). One approach is to modify existing humanitarian and compassionate visas to better accommodate individuals experiencing climate-affected migration. Another possibility is to develop a new, dedicated policy specifically for climate-affected migration, which would provide targeted support and legal frameworks for those impacted. Additionally, there is the option to adapt existing labour pathways to be more inclusive of climate-related push factors, ensuring that these pathways are accessible to people experiencing climate-affected migration. Each of these options offers a different path forward in managing the complexities of climate-affected migration, and leads to the recommendations in this project.

Recommendations

Chapter Eight (p. 80) outlines four key recommendations for effectively addressing international climate-affected migration in Canada. First, Canada should work with global organizations like the International Organization for Migration and the Centre for Global Development to integrate climate-affected migration frameworks into national policies. Second, revising the criteria for Humanitarian and Compassionate visas to include provisions for slow-onset climate change will help support individuals impacted by this issue. Third, it is important to review and adjust existing immigration options including current labour pathways and agreements to ensure that vulnerable populations affected by slow-onset climate change can access them. Finally, a cohesive and comprehensive approach to international climate-affected migration requires integrating climate-affected migration policies across all levels of Canadian government, from federal to municipal.

Table of Contents

International Climate-Affected Migrant Immigration Policy and Practices and their Applicability in the Canadian Context.....	1
Acknowledgements.....	3
Executive Summary	4
Introduction	4
Methodology and Methods.....	4
Key Findings	4
Options to consider	5
Recommendations.....	5
Table of Contents	6
List of Figures	10
Chapter 1: Introduction	11
Defining the problem	11
Research Background, Questions, Project Objectives, and Scope.....	11
Organization of the Report.....	14
Chapter 2: Methodology	15
Introduction	15
Methods.....	15
Literature Review Methodology.....	15
Findings Chapters Methodology.....	17
Data Analysis Framework.....	17
Reliability and Validity	18
Strengths and Limitations.....	18
Limitations	18
Strengths	19
Conclusion.....	19
Chapter 3: Literature Review.....	20
Introduction	20
In search of overarching policy themes related to climate-affected migration	20

Defining climate-affected migration	21
Climate-affected migrants and the 1951 Refugee Convention	22
The nexus of climate-affected migration	23
Human rights and climate-affected migration	25
Proactive policy targeted to climate-affected migrants.....	25
Policy specific themes	26
Planned relocation and resettlement	27
Humanitarian and compassionate visas	28
Temporary labour schemes	28
New policies specific to climate-affected migration.....	28
Multiple policy options.....	29
The Canadian Context.....	29
Gaps and unanswered questions.....	31
Conceptual framework	33
Conclusion.....	34
Chapter Four: International and Regional Jurisdictional Scan Findings	36
Introduction	36
Summary of Key Findings	36
Description of Findings.....	36
International Frameworks and Policies.....	36
Findings and discussion	39
Regional Frameworks and Policies.....	40
National Frameworks and Policies	41
Conclusion.....	43
Chapter 5: International and Regional Stakeholder Analysis Findings	44
Introduction	44
International Stakeholder Analysis	46
Regional Stakeholder Analysis.....	50
Conclusion.....	54
Chapter 6: Canada Specific Jurisdictional Scan Findings	56
Introduction	56
Description of Findings.....	56
Canada and International Frameworks	56
Canada’s Immigration History.....	59

Canadian Federal Immigration Governance Structure.....	60
2024-2026 Immigration Levels Plan	66
Canadian Current State Analysis	66
Conclusion.....	67
Chapter 7: Discussion	68
Introduction	68
Connection of Findings to Research Questions and Objectives	68
Overview of Findings.....	68
Discussion of International and Regional Jurisdictional Scan	69
Findings	69
Policy Responses are Nascent.....	70
Discussion of International and Regional Stakeholder Analysis	70
Findings	70
Degree of Stakeholder Agreement.....	71
How Stakeholder Influence Policy	72
Discussion of Canada Specific Jurisdictional Scan.....	72
Findings	72
Current Canadian Policy Responses and Options.....	72
Labour pathways.....	73
Implications of Findings for Policy Direction.....	74
Strengths and Limitations.....	74
Strengths	74
Limitations	74
Revisiting the conceptual framework.....	75
Future Research.....	75
Next Steps	76
Conclusion.....	76
Chapter 8: Options to Consider and Recommendations	77
Introduction	77
Options to Consider.....	77
Recommendations	77
Implementation Strategy	78
Conclusion.....	79

Chapter 9: Conclusion.....	80
Review of Project	80
Key Findings	80
Gaps Addressed.....	80
Areas for Further Research	81
Final Comments	81
References.....	83
Appendices.....	93
Appendix A – Email recruitment letter	93
Group 1 – Canadian Participants	93
Group 2 – International Participants	93
To General Mailboxes	94
Appendix B – Email Recruitment Script.....	95
Group 1 – Canadian Participants	95
Group 2 – International Participants	96
Appendix C – Written Consent	98
Appendix D – Email follow up letter due to lack of response	101
Appendix E – Data Collection Instrument: Interview Questions.....	102

List of Figures

Figure 1: Policy recommendations word cloud

Figure 2: Literature review matrix

Figure 3: Conceptual framework

Figure 4: Timeline of frameworks and policies

Figure 5: The policy process

Figure 6: Power/interest grid

Figure 7: Author developed eco-map: global organizations and countries specific to Canadian policy

Figure 8: International stakeholder analysis matrix

Figure 9: Regional stakeholder analysis matrix

Figure 10: International frameworks in the Canadian context

Figure 11: Canadian immigration management stakeholder map

Figure 12: Canadian federal stakeholder analysis matrix

Figure 13: Directions of influence for policy

Chapter 1: Introduction

Defining the problem

This Master of Arts research project explores international and Canadian climate-affected migration policies and frameworks, with a focus on emerging promising practices and their potential application in Canada. Promising practices refer to approaches that demonstrate considerable potential to effectively address specific challenges and are feasible to implement (Government of Canada: Public Health Agency of Canada, n.d., para. 1). Currently, Canadian immigration policy does not account for individuals displaced due to climate change (Omeziri & Gore, 2014, p. 49; *ibid.*, p. 45; Galloway, 2022, p. 28). As Andeva (2020) highlights, many existing systems for supporting environmentally displaced persons are designed to address short-term emergencies rather than long-term crises (p. 79). This research examines international frameworks and regional responses to climate-affected migration to assess their applicability in Canada. The research also considers the role of key stakeholders in shaping future Canadian immigration policy. Given the growing impact of climate change, it is critical that Canada prepares to support climate-affected migrants through inclusive and forward-thinking policies.

Research Background, Questions, Project Objectives, and Scope

The background of this research highlights that more people are living outside of their place of birth today than at any other time in history (Shah, 2020, p. 10), with current estimates indicating that over one billion individuals have migrated at some point in their lives (McLeman, 2020, p. 10). The movement of people is predicted to accelerate in the coming decades, largely due to climate change, which is having a significant impact on the livelihoods of people in the Global South. In fact, the United Nation's Commissioner for Human Rights [UNHCR] stated that climate change is resulting in the involuntary migration of twenty million people each year with predictions that by 2050 over two hundred million people will be displaced (Omeziri & Gore, 2014, p. 44).

While some countries, such as Finland, Sweden, and the United States, have shown awareness and are discussing the integration of climate-affected migrants into policy, there remains a lack of consensus and clarity on the responsibility of countries in the Global North to support people migrating due to climate change. This identifies this as a wicked problem, as "...there are no clear boundaries... [as well as] conflicting values and knowledge that are a part of an extensive debate" (Echt, 2016, para. 9). Furthermore, there is uncertainty about how and where to begin addressing this issue. Echt (2016) argues that research is necessary to explore existing knowledge, which will help in designing effective frameworks and shaping future strategies (para. 18). Other authors have expressed concern regarding the issue of climate-affected migrants and the lack of existing policies that provide options for those fleeing their place of origin due to climate-related events (Duried, 2021; Kaduuli, 2020; Heisler, 2022).

The World Economic Forum (2023) has marked large-scale involuntary migration as a top ten global risk to emerge within the next two years, and predicts human migration to intensify over the next ten years (p. 6). Although the cause of involuntary migration is not explicitly outlined, The World Economic Forum (2023) highlights several contributing factors. These include natural disasters, extreme weather events, failure to mitigate climate change, large-scale environmental damage, inadequate climate change adaptation, and natural resource crises, all of which are ranked among the top ten global crises of the next two years (*ibid.*, p. 6).

Recent research finds that mass migration due to climate change is already happening and is already presenting additional challenges which will continue in the years to come (Galloway, 2022; Biermann & Boas, 2010; Ghosh & Orchiston, 2022). Global governance institutions the

International Organization for Migration, the Centre for Global Development and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees stress climate-affected migration as an emerging priority and are working with various countries throughout the world to address climate-affected migration; however, federal governments are responsible for generating and implementing country-specific policies (Blake, et al., 2021, p. 3).

While most migration occurs within national borders (Wyman, 2013, p. 174; Huckstep & Clemens, 2020, p. 45; Galloway, 2022, p.7), international migration remains significant (Huckstep & Clemens, 2020, p. 255). Vulnerable communities disproportionately bear the brunt of climate change, while countries like Canada support adaptation and mitigation efforts, but do not provide realistic avenues for migrating. Despite being a Global Champion for the UN Global Compact on Migration (Mir, et al., 2020, p. 25) and a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Canada lacks specific provisions for climate-affected migrants in its immigration or refugee laws (Galloway, 2022, p. 28).

As a globally recognized leader in refugee and humanitarian admissions (Mir, et al., 2020, p. 1) and a significant contributor to the greenhouse gas emissions driving climate change (Hett, 202, para. 7), Canada faces increasing pressure to take action. Both media and academic circles are calling for the development or reform of policies that support individuals migrating due to climate-related impacts. Critics highlight the disparity in rights based on immigration status and the complexity of achieving permanent residency once people have migrated to Canada (Praznik & Shields, 2018, p. 6).

The issue of climate-affected migrants has been discussed for over a decade (Black, 2001, p. 12). White paper research conducted by the Economics, Resources and International Affairs Division [ERIAD] (2020) for the Canadian Library of Parliament highlights the long-standing study of migration related to environmental events and climate change (p.8). Research in this has been ongoing for over three decades. Despite this, there is a consensus that one of the major challenges identified throughout the studies is "...a lack of general preparedness for disasters, which can lead to ad hoc responses especially in the case of mass displacements" (ibid., p. 8). Although research on climate-affected migration policy development has been limited, some progress has been made by extending the principle of non-refoulement to encompass climate-related events (Galloway, 2022; Meighen et al., 2021; ERIAD, 2020). The non-refoulement principle stipulates that people who have fled their place of origin shall not be returned by the host country to inhospitable environments that may threaten their life or basic human rights (ERIAD, 2020; Meyer, 2020; Bates-Eamer, 2019). In addition to this, ERIAD (2020) reports that in June of 2019 Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada stated they would consider "...resettlement decisions with respect to individuals potentially affected by climate change on a 'case to case basis'" (p. 14). This remains in effect today with no recent changes to policy since 2019 (ibid., p. 14).

Given the evidence of growing migration due to climate change, it is critical that policy options are examined to adequately prepare for this impending migration. This is especially relevant given that Canada has committed to the 2015 United Nation's Paris Agreement (Environment and Climate Change Canada, 2015, para's. 1-15), the 2015 United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (Global Affairs Canada, 2017, para. 1), and the 2018 Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (Meighen, et al., 2021, para. 5). As a result of these international commitments, the Government of Canada (2022) developed an action area policy for environment and climate action, and identifies the following three national paths of action:

- Strengthening environmental governance and enhancing women’s participation in decision making
- Investing in low-carbon and climate-resilient economies
- Environmental practices that support healthy, resilient, adaptive communities (para. 19)

Regardless of Canada’s commitment to several international policies and agreements, this project questions whether there is a lack of policy reforms that seek address climate-affected migration through immigration policy reform. In this project data is gathered and synthesized utilizing a qualitative policy analysis framework with a secondary methodology of promising practices exploration.

This project’s central research question - *in climate-affected migrant immigration policy what international promising practices and policies are emerging that could be applicable in the Canadian context* -was developed after an extensive literature review, which revealed significant gaps in knowledge on the topic.

It is important to note that the majority of the existing literature dating back decades has used the terminology of climate refugees when referring to individuals who have experienced forced displacement due to environmental events or degradation. In fact, the language used to refer to climate-affected migrants is shifting regularly to remain relevant and respectful to individuals impacted by climate-related events. The terms climate migrant, climate refugee, and climate mobility are being used interchangeably; however, the term climate-affected migrant is used throughout this project to align with the UNHCR’s (n.d.) desire to refer to “persons displaced in the context of disasters and climate change” (para. 21) and Huckstep and Clemens’ (2020) definition of migration that takes place in the context of climate change (p.35). The study will address the central research question through the following secondary research questions:

- How are other Global North countries responding to climate migrants in their citizenship policies?
- What have international organizations done to address the issue of climate migrants?
- How have international governance and policies informed national policies related to climate migrants?
- What lessons have been learned from other policy responses to climate migrants?
- What have been the policy effects that immigration policy reform related to climate migrants in other countries has had on creating facilitators to social, economic, and/or government infrastructure that supports incoming climate migrants?
- What have been the barriers to social, economic and/or government infrastructure to support climate migrants through immigration policy reform?

What key stakeholders are involved in respect to climate migration policy reform?

The objectives of this study include:

- Examine existing international policies and promising practices related to the inclusion of climate migrants, including analysis of lessons learned
- Identify if current Canadian immigration policies provide a framework for inclusion for those fleeing climate-related events.
- Provide recommendations on equitable and inclusive policy options for climate migrants.

This project focuses on promising practices and is guided by the central and secondary research questions. It is driven by the conceptual framework established in the literature review, which highlights core themes that define a promising practice specific to climate-affected migration. The project also examines whether promising practices exist for humanitarian and compassionate visas, if new policies for climate-affected migration are being developed, and the

potential for adapting existing labour pathways to better accommodate climate-affected migrants.

Organization of the Report

The report begins with an executive summary of the study and provides a brief overview of the methodology and methods, key findings, options to consider and recommendations. This is followed with the introduction which situates the problem and provides background and direction for the subsequent sections. The literature review is a comprehensive synthesis of the existing discussion on climate-affected migration, the emerging themes related to this project, and identification of gaps and unanswered questions, which establish the conceptual framework that guided this project. A discussion of the methodology and methods follows the literature review to solidify the theoretical frameworks guiding the research. This is followed by three findings chapters: the international jurisdictional scan, the international and regional stakeholder analysis, and the Canada specific jurisdictional scan and stakeholder analysis. The discussion and analysis section includes an interpretation of the data collected rooted in establishing the importance of the research study, and effectively links the findings chapters to the recommendations discussed. This leads to the options to consider and recommendations where direction is provided on next steps for climate-affected migration policy in the Canadian context. The last section of the report includes final remarks and areas for further research.

Chapter 2: Methodology

Introduction

The epistemology underlying the research embodies a postpositivist, interpretive approach that seeks to understand what promising practices in climate-affected migrant immigration policy and reform are emerging that could be applicable in the Canadian context, and how these can be adopted under current immigration legislation. It utilizes knowledge of civil servants acknowledging that knowledge is created by people with research being rooted in perspective seeking (McGregor, 2018, p. 238).

The methodology is a qualitative policy analysis with a secondary methodology of promising practices. Einbinder (2010) states that “policy analysis research is an inherently social and political activity that incorporates the values and ethics of policy analysis as well as decision makers, who rely on these studies to determine the allocation and distribution of resources within and among society” (p. 12). The Public Health Agency of Canada (n.d.) describes promising practices as “...an intervention, program, service or strategy that shows potential...for developing into practice” (para. 1). This results in an illuminative research design, as it reveals information related to the research questions through an intentional approach to data collection and analysis (McGregor, 2018, p. 231).

Methods

Data collection methods are solely qualitative and include three key informants interviews, document analysis, a comprehensive literature review, and promising practices exploration. The key informant interviews are guided by interview questions established following the initial literature review and are located in Appendix E. Interviewees are selected through purposive sampling, defined as "selecting participants on purpose because they can best provide information required to answer the research question" (McGregor, 2018, p. 238). The criteria for key informants include knowledge of the affected community and the implications of policy changes. The interviewees include representatives from the Centre for Global Development, the United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority and the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre. The interviews are semi-structured allowing for elaboration to gain deeper insights and include the following questions (Appendix E):

1. What policy reform and/or promising practices are emerging in your context?
2. Were there any existing national or international frameworks/solutions/guidance that you utilized to develop your policy/practice?
3. How has your policy/practice focused on human rights from the policy itself?
What things do you feel are/were missing or overlooked with the policy/practice?
4. Is there anything I have not asked that you think I should know?
5. Do you have anyone else in mind that you would recommend to participate in this study?

Interviews are recorded with consent and then transcribed. The resulting statements are coded thematically to reveal lines of thought that enhance the data analysis in this project alongside the literature review.

Literature Review Methodology

Chapter Three (p. 23) is an integrative literature review was conducted, providing a holistic overview of the phenomenon of climate-affected migration. This includes general themes related to the topic, as well as specific policy developments and promising practices in this area. The mandate of an integrative literature review involves reviewing, critiquing, and synthesizing knowledge (Torraco, 2005, p. 356) into a thematic format to expose the limited consensus that

exists in academic literature on climate-affected migration policy. This extends to grey and white literature on the topic.

The University of Victoria library database is the primary search location, with Google Scholar as a secondary search engine. Articles are filtered to only produce peer-reviewed articles between the years of 2005-2024, mainly due to recent changes in international policy and guidance on climate-affected migration and environmental displacement. Key search strings include:

- climate OR environment* AND refugee OR migr* AND legislat* OR policy AND Canada. This string yielded 2717 relevant articles, which were then further filtered by narrowing the subject terms to include only subjects of relevance to this review
- labo* AND econom* AND visa OR pathway* AND climate* OR environm* AND migrat* OR refug* OR mobilit*
- Slow onset AND sudden onset AND refugee AND climate affected migration OR mobilit*

Relevancy and credibility to the research topic are assessed through reading the abstract and noting keywords in addition to the journal of publication, and number of times the article was cited. An adapted version of McGregor's (2018) template for literature review matrix is utilized throughout the literature review to reveal themes (p. 189).

The completion of the integrative thematic analysis reveals an astounding amount of disagreement on policy options for climate-affected migration, which reinforces climate-affected migration as a wicked problem. Due to the complexity of the issue, themes are arranged into two thematic categories. The first category identifies various overarching themes that are applicable to any climate-affected migration policy development and implementation, which then guide promising practices in policy efforts. The first category is therefore labeled overarching themes related to climate-affected migration policy and includes: the complexity of the nexus of climate-affected migration; definitions of climate-affected migration; applicability of climate-affected migrants under the 1951 Refugee Convention; the role of human rights principles in policies surrounding climate-affected migration; and the need to proactively prepare through adequate policy targeted to climate-affected migrants.

The second category of the thematic analysis focuses on national policy-specific responses to climate-affected migration that are cited in the literature and include: planned relocation and resettlement (Biermann & Boas, 2010, pp. 75-76; Bronen, 2011, p. 394; Vieira, 2018, p. 307); adjusting existing labour pathways to include climate-affected migrants (Traore Chazalnoël & Ionesco, 2022, p. 56; Draper, 2022, p. 1012; Mayer, 2013a, p. 101; Huckstep & Clemens, 2023, p. 283 & 378; The White House, 2021a, p. 21; Glahn, 2009, p. 50; The Government Office for Science, London, 2011, p. 22; Vieira, 2018, p. 307); expanding humanitarian visa applicability (Galloway, 2022, pp. 31-32; Huckstep & Clemens, 2023, p. 276; Meighen, Boyd & Bueno, 2021, para.'s 7-9; The White House, 2021a, p. 21; The Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers [CARL], 2021, p. 11); providing multiple legal avenues and options for climate-affected migrants in existing policy (Betts, 2010, p. 277; Gromilova, 2016, p. 139; Wyman, 2013, p. 207; Traore Chazalnoël & Ionesco, 2022, p. 14); and creating a new legal avenue for climate-affected migrants through potential bi-lateral agreements, visa lotteries or temporary protection or stay agreements (O'Connor, Bruch & Maekawa, 2019, p. 1257; Wyman, 2013, p. 207; Huckstep & Clemens, 2023, p. 293; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 2020, pp. 10-11; CARL, 2021, pp. 11-13; Gemenne, Mokhnacheva & Ionesco, 2016, p. 94; Glahn, 2009, p. 52).

Findings Chapters Methodology

The data gathered through the literature review and key informant interviews is analyzed utilizing a comprehensive labeling process that identifies the jurisdiction from which the data originates or to which it refers, along with its relevance to the themes outlined in the *conceptual framework* in Figure 3. Jurisdictions are categorized as international, regional, or national, and further detailed based on the relevant organization, country or bi-lateral agreement. In addition, Canada's involvement within the international and regional context is catalogued to expose how various jurisdictions may influence or contribute to policy-directions in Canada. A final point of the analysis includes mapping the evolution of conversations, discussions, and frameworks over time to obtain a deeper understanding of what exists and how it applies to the Canadian context.

The research findings are then analyzed and subsequently contextualized in the form of jurisdictional scans and stakeholder analysis. Kilian, et al., (2016) state that jurisdictional scans are used to "...consider how problems have been framed in other jurisdictions, [to] compare and evaluate options based on action taken in other jurisdictions in response to similar problems, [and to] identify and anticipate implementation considerations associated with options" (p. 2). A stakeholder analysis is best understood to reveal whose interests are considered and why (Schmeer, 2000, p. 2-1; Project Management Institute, 2017, p. 723). The findings are presented across three chapters: in Chapter Four (p. 39) through an international and regional jurisdictional scan, in Chapter Five (p. 47) with an international and regional stakeholder analysis, and in Chapter Six (p. 59) through a Canada-specific jurisdictional scan. Given the complexity of climate-affected migration and its prevalence in discourse at all levels internationally, academic literature alongside grey and white literature is utilized to inform the jurisdictional scans

The international and regional jurisdictional scan presented in Chapter Four (p. 39) includes an analysis of existing organizations, institutions, regions and countries who have frameworks or policies directly or indirectly related to climate-affected migration. This is done to examine the feasibility of these frameworks and policies in the Canadian context, as well as gain insight into Canada's involvement and commitments to any agreements.

The international and regional stakeholder analysis in Chapter Five (p. 47) focuses on establishing the levels of power and influence of stakeholders on policy reform related to climate-affected migration. The intention is also to gain a deeper understanding of the influences of Canadian immigration policy to expose leverage points for policy reform for international climate-affected migration. It strives to articulate the complexity of those involved in shaping climate-affected migration policy.

Finally, the Canada-specific jurisdictional scan presented in Chapter Six (p. 59) displays the findings of the research as they to the Canadian context, being informed by the findings outlined in Chapters Four and Five. Analyzing the Canadian immigration system specific to policy planning is critical to reveal the history of international agreements in shaping policy direction and the implications of existing international and regional frameworks and policies in the Canadian context. This is all done through the utilization of the data analysis framework.

Data Analysis Framework

The data analysis is rooted in a constant comparison analysis framework, which is a qualitative research method used to "...identify underlying themes presented throughout the data" (Leech & Onwuegbuzie, 2007, p. 565). All collected data is analyzed and coded, revealing themes that form the basis for the secondary data analysis framework of thematic analysis. Fugard and Potts (2020) discuss the role of constant comparison and thematic analysis working alongside one another in an iterative and ongoing process, which then influences future lines of

inquiry related to the research question and topic (p. 4). The research initially begins with a deductive approach, but eventually embodies an inductive approach where the researcher does not assume themes or codes, but rather allows for these to emerge through the data collection process (ibid., p. 4).

Ultimately the thematic analysis results in sense-making of current international, regional and national approaches to climate-affected migration and reveals areas or gaps where further research can be done and recommendations that can be made.

Reliability and Validity

From a qualitative validity standpoint, the study meets the four criteria of validity including credibility, transferability, dependability and confirmability (Trochim, 2020, para. 3). Credibility is established by interview participants through questions developed from the literature review, which aims to understand climate-affected migration policy options. Transferability is achieved through "...doing a thorough job of describing the context...central to the research questions" (ibid., para. 5). Given that the data is analyzed utilizing direct quotes that are then organized into categories to reflect themes, this study meets the criteria for dependability, as the results can be replicated if completed a second time (ibid., para. 6). Confirmability is achieved through the ongoing analysis of bias that takes place for the duration of the research study, and findings are corroborated by the thesis supervisor to ensure the results can be confirmed (ibid., para. 7).

Strengths and Limitations

Limitations

The limitations of the methodology include the lack of available quantitative data that exists that could result in a mixed-methods approach. Due to the complexity of nexus of migration and the difficulty in delineating between various push and pull factors that influence migration decisions, it is not possible to incorporate raw data into the findings. Additionally, the lack of data specific to climate-affected migration further limits this incorporation. The other limitation of the research method is containing the scope of the project given the complexity of the topic, which is even more challenging in such a comprehensive literature review where dissecting academic journals to establish themes is intricate and detailed work. The complexity of the topic of climate-affected migration policy means that it is beyond the scope of this project to examine every single option available to reconcile this wicked problem. This means that the project focuses on the three most cited responses for policy approaches for climate-affected migration. Figure 1 is a word cloud which guided policy themes exploration. One limitation of this tool was that the data utilized in developing the word cloud came directly from academic authors as it was produced during the initial literature review while themes were being exposed. This has the potential to have inadvertently excluded other perspectives, or validated publication bias based on the articles selected to be cited.

Strengths

The study has strengths in its data analysis approach and methodology, which involves thematically organizing emerging literature and perspectives to uncover complex causal processes. This addresses an emerging wicked problem of climate change intersecting with multiple dimensions of disadvantage, further reinforced through restrictive immigration policies. Figure 1 utilizes a word cloud to analyze recommendations for policy responses to climate-affected migration in the literature. This approach provided the opportunity to visualize most often cited words related to policy recommendations providing a streamlined approach to analysis.

Conclusion

Situating the research in the epistemological framework of a postpositive interpretive approach ensures that sense-making occurs throughout the research. The methods used for data collection and analysis ensure that objectivity is maintained as much as possible throughout categorizing and thematically organizing qualitative data. This approach ensures that reliability is achieved. The limitations of the methodology are discussed and acknowledged alongside the strengths of the approach, and they remain at the forefront of the research process. As discussed in the methodology section of this chapter, the findings of the data collection are presented across three chapters to reveal the complex interplay of the international and regional entities on the Canadian context. The next chapter is the literature review, which establishes the conceptual framework that guides this research project.

Chapter 3: Literature Review

Introduction

This literature review explores the historical and current discussions on international climate-affected migration. It begins with a brief historical overview to highlight the growing importance of the issue, setting the stage for identifying key themes in the literature. These themes shape the conceptualization of climate-affected migration and inform policy considerations. The review also addresses the evolution of themes and examines the most frequently cited policy options. A critique of Canada's immigration system is included, followed by an identification of gaps in the literature and an explanation of the conceptual frameworks guiding this research.

In search of overarching policy themes related to climate-affected migration

The search for overarching themes begins with examining the historical discussion of climate-affected migrations, which focuses on conceptualizing and defining those forced to leave their place of origin due to environmental changes. The discussion of climate-affected migration first emerged in academic debate in the 1970's with Lester Brown introducing the concept of environmental refugees (Tacoli, 2009, p. 693), which was driven by "... assumptions that population growth would lead to migration and conflict caused by resource scarcity" (ibid., p. 516). The language of environmental refugees was subsequently used fifteen years later in the international sphere when the United Nations Environmental Programme began regularly using this terminology to refer to people displaced by environmental events (Biermann & Boas, 2010, p. 62). The concept of environmental refugees gained significant traction in the academic literature and international discussions for years to come (El-Hinnawi, 1985, p. 4; Jacobson, 1988, p. 257; Myers, 1993, p. 752; Bates, 2002, pp. 468-469), until Biermann and Boas (2010) began to use the term climate refugee to refer to those impacted by environmental events that are typically slow-onset in nature such as "...sea-level rise, extreme weather events, and drought and water scarcity" (p. 64). Part of the rationale in specifying slow-onset events was due to the existing humanitarian protections for sudden-onset events including humanitarian and compassionate visas (ibid., pp. 63-64). Over the past decade various language has been used to identify climate-affected migrants including climate-induced migration (Bharadwaj & Huq, 2022, p. 6); climate migration (Stonanov, et al., 2021, p. 212); environmental migration (IOM, 2020a, p. 254); environmentally displaced person (Zetter, 2011, p. 9), and climate mobility (Cundill, et al., 2021, p. 2). The term climate-affected migration has been the most recent terminology used in the Center for Global Development's Climate Change and Migration document released in 2023 and is understood to "...reflect the fact that migration undertaken in the context of climate change is first and foremost migration, which is undertaken for a host of simultaneous reasons, but that it is also migration affected by climate change" (Huckstep & Clemens, 2023, p. 35).

The issue of conceptualizing, defining and labelling climate-affected migration is complex, and has been identified as an overarching theme critical to understand in relation to policy options. Parallel to defining climate-affected migration is the role of the 1951 Refugee Convention in relation to climate-affected migration. Given the initial emergence of the terminology environmental refugee, discussions on the eligibility of persons under this convention took place over the decades and continues to be considered in the literature at times (McAdam & Saul, 2010, p. 265; The Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers [CARL], 2021, p. 4; Betts, 2010, p. 361). Although this debate appears to have been mostly reconciled, it is still

critical to consider, as there are certain cases where refugee status may be relevant (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], 2020, pp. 9-10).

Intersecting with defining climate-affected migration and the role of the 1951 Refugee Convention are discussions of the nexus of climate-affected migration, which first emerged through the work of Black in 2001 (p. 12). This refers to the numerous push and pull factors that drive human migration and challenges that identifying climate or environment as the sole cause of migration ignores the reality of the multiplicity of factors influencing one's decision to migrate (Myers, 2002, p. 611; Castles, 2002, pp. 1-2).

Regardless of the factors influencing migration decisions, the relevance and importance of upholding human rights principles through policy options is heavily stressed in the literature (Ahmed, 2018, p. 17; Kraler, Katsiaficas & Wagner, 2020, p. 13, Gromilova, 2016, p. 120). While this discussion has been relevant for decades, the recent landmark United Nations decision on the case of *Mr. Teitiota v. New Zealand* has amplified this discussion and has underscored a nation's responsibility to uphold their commitments to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

These overarching themes are discussed in greater detail below (pp. 21- 26) to display the tension that exists in the literature, or how arguments have been reconciled, as these are crucial elements to consider in any policy response to climate-affected migration. First, the issue of how to define climate-affected migration, and if governments should define them is explored.

Defining climate-affected migration

Defining climate-affected migration is a complex endeavor because there is significant disagreement in the literature on if climate-affected migrants should be defined, and if they are defined, how to define them. This is reinforced by Murray (2010) who stipulates that "scholars have been struggling to find a definitive term to express the plight of people who are forced to migrate from their home territories due to environmental degradation since the mid-1980s" (p. 92). Understanding the current debate requires noting that the term environmental refugee has been discussed for fifty years, evolving significantly over time (Tacoli, 2009, p. 516), highlighting the contentious nature of the issue. This has essentially created a segregation within the literature with one side arguing against a definition (McAdam, 2011, p. 6; Bates-Eamer, 2019, p. 2; Vieira, 2018, p. 299; Assan & Rosenfeld, 2012, p. 1049) and the other stressing the importance of defining climate-affected migrants (Albrecht & Plewa, 2015, p. 80; Andeva, 2020, pp. 84-85; Ransan-Cooper, et al., 2015, p. 112; Williams, 2008, p. 522-523).

Authors against defining climate-affected migrants stress that by creating a legally binding definition the nexus of climate-affected migration remains unacknowledged through isolating climate and environment as the only, or primary, driver of migration (Vieira, 2018, p. 299; Assan & Rosenfeld, 2012, p. 1049). Neglecting environmental or climatic factors as catalysts for migration jeopardizes the inclusion of migrants in policies aimed at addressing climate-affected migration, given the complex and varied reasons behind their movement.

This exclusion may occur if migrants are unaware of or fail to meet the specific criteria outlined in such policies (McAdam, 2016, p. 1539). Others discuss the risks of increased bureaucracy through categorizing people which may result in further barriers to migrate (McAdam, 2016, p. 1539; Bates-Eamer, 2019, p. 2) or institutional paralysis where inaction occurs due to ongoing debates and discussions surrounding definition criteria that stall policy design and development (McAdam, 2011, p. 6). Kraler, Katsiaficas & Wagner (2020) contend that "...the absence of a legally binding definition...does not preclude the possibility of developing specific policies to protect people who are forced to move as a consequence of

climate change” (p. 68). On the other end of the spectrum, many authors such as Albrecht & Plewa (2015), Andeva (2020), Ransan-Cooper, et al., (2015) and Williams (2008) stress the importance of defining climate-affected migrants.

Rationale for defining climate-affected migrants centers around the importance of creating a category to ensure state protection of individuals adversely impacted by climate change in their place of origin (Albrecht & Plewa, 2015, p. 80; Andeva, 2020, pp. 84-85). While the risk of institutional paralysis is discussed as a reason against defining climate-affected migrants (McAdam, 2015, p. 1539; Bates-Eamer, 2019, p. 2), other authors believe that by creating a narrow definition in the international sphere will result in subsequent international support and legal protection for climate-affected migrants (Albrecht & Plewa, 2015, p. 80). Assan & Rosenfeld (2012) argue that the establishment of a clear definition would pave the way for the development of a robust legal framework with a specific mandate outlining the necessary criteria for assessing the extent of people impacted by climate-affected migration (p. 1054). This could also pave the way for policy proposals rooted in institutional reform and development that “...[are] designed to produce potential migrants...with a greater degree of choice in their mobility decisions” (Ransan-Cooper, et al., 2015, p. 112), with differing degrees of protection being provided based on the cause, influences and degree of displacement (Williams, 2008, pp. 522-523). Huckstep & Clemens (2023) agree that to develop a policy sufficient to specifically support climate-affected migrant definitions “...would need to be clear in defining the criteria to be met for qualification as a ‘climate [affected] migrant’” (p. 69). Biermann & Boas (2010) discuss two elements that would need to be included in the definition of climate-affected migrants including: “...the cause of migration...the type of migration, namely whether it is voluntary or “forced”, temporary or permanent, and transnational or internal” (p. 63). They go on to argue about the feasibility of including climate-affected migrants under the definitional criteria of the 1951 Refugee Convention, which will be discussed in the next section. Ransan-Cooper, et al., (2015) further the definition recommendations by acknowledging other elements in debates that include the degree of choice, the type of environmental event, and the scale of the migration (p. 113). Regardless of the exact definition that is attached to climate-affected migration, McLeman (2020) acknowledges that the lack of a definition impacts the ability for international institutions and organizations to adequately track and subsequently project climate-affected migration (p. 11). The debate over whether and how to define climate-affected migrants is particularly pertinent given the historical efforts to include them in the 1951 Refugee Convention. Such inclusion would significantly shape the definition of climate-affected migrants and establish the corresponding international obligations for their protection.

Climate-affected migrants and the 1951 Refugee Convention

In the fifty years since the term environmental refugee was introduced, significant effort has focused on whether climate-affected migrants fall under the United Nations 1951 Refugee Convention and, if not, whether the convention should be amended to include them. Notably, Canada signed the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees in 1969 (Murray, 2010, p. 93), making this a relevant discussion in the Canadian context. Recent literature has reached a consensus that climate-affected migrants do not qualify under the 1951 Refugee Convention (Williams, 2008, p. 510; Betts, 2010, p. 361; Wyman, 2013, pp. 177-178). Additionally, expanding the convention to include them as a protected category is considered unhelpful, as their level of vulnerability does not meet the convention’s criteria (UNHCR, 2018, p. 3). Climate-affected migrants do not meet the legal definition of refugees as outlined by the Convention (McAdam & Saul, 2010, p. 265) unless “...there is a denial of

protection from the adverse effects [of climate change] amounting to persecution...authorities leverage the adverse effects of climate change to target and persecute particular groups...or...serious human rights violations or conflict triggered by the effect of climate change cause people to flee based on a well-founded fear of persecution” (The Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers [CARL], 2021, p. 4). Other authors contend that climate-affected migrants would meet the criteria if there is evidence that the place of origin is “...unwilling or unable to ensure access to their most fundamental rights” (Betts, 2010, p. 361), if the State “...is unable or unwilling to address [the impacts of an environmental disaster] on the State and its societal order and population” (UNHCR, 2020, pp. 9-10), and migrants must have a “...well-founded fear of persecution” (UNHCR, 2018, p. 3). Given the level of international assistance to the countries most impacted by climate change through international frameworks such as The Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts and the Disaster Response Emergency Fund it is unlikely that refugee status will be invoked for climate-affected migrants.

The consideration of including climate-affected migrants under the 1951 Refugee Convention acknowledges the complexity of intersecting factors that may result in migration. The discussion on the definitional challenges alongside the unsuitability of including climate-affected migrants under the 1951 Refugee Convention has revealed that a multiplicity of factors drives climate-affected migration, which is discussed in the next section as the nexus of climate-affected migration.

The nexus of climate-affected migration

In the literature on migration, the nexus of climate-affected migration refers to the numerous push and pull factors that influence human migration in general. This topic first emerged in the work of Black (2001) who considered “...why so much effort should have been spent in trying to separate environmental causes of migration from other political, economic or social causes” (p. 12). This extended beyond noting that there are many factors which may contribute to a migration decision to his stated belief that “...there remains a danger that academic and policy writing on ‘environmental refugees’ has more to do with bureaucratic agendas of international organizations and academics than with any real theoretical or empirical insight” (Black, 2001, p. 14). Regardless of his philosophical position on the legitimacy of climate-affected migration, his consideration of the intersecting factors that influence migration have gained traction through further studies that link socioeconomic, political, and legal realities with climate change (Myers, 2002, pg. 611; Castles, 2002, pp. 1-2). These are multi-faceted and include a variety of dimensions which Morales-Giner & Ramon (2022) list as; spatial dimensions related to type of migration, more specifically if the migration is international or internal; the temporal dimension which is inclusive of permanent, temporary, or circular migration; the demographic dimension, which encompasses gender, age, and socioeconomic status; and the legal dimension of migration, specifically if the migration journey follows pathways that are supported by recognized legal systems or not (pp. 33-34). Bates-Eamer (2019) contends that there is a danger in identifying climate change as the sole reason an individual migrates as it undermines the complexity of migration motivators (p. 1). Consensus is achieved across the literature regarding intersecting push and pull factors for migration with Tacoli (2009) acknowledging the role of “...other factors in determining migration duration, direction and composition” (p. 521), McAdam and Saul (2010) citing “...poverty, environmental degradation, socio-political factors and the adverse impacts of climate change” (p. 236) as push factors to migration, with the UNHCR (2020) validating that isolating climate change as the sole factor of

migration “...fail[s] to recognize the social and political characteristics of the effects of climate change or the impacts of disasters or their interaction with other drivers of displacement” (p. 3).

Authors emphasize the importance of policies that acknowledge and integrate these push factors that influence the nexus of climate-affected migration into responses which are sensitive to the complexity of climate-affected migration (McAdam & Saul, 2010, p. 236; Tacoli, 2009, p. 521; Kraler, Katsiaficas & Wagner, 2020, p. 15). In addition to the importance of governments acknowledging the complexity of climate-affected migration, policymakers must also be cognizant of the perceptions and beliefs of migrants surrounding their migration journey.

The complexity of push factors for migration is widely acknowledged in the literature and is further reinforced by research conducted with migrants themselves that seeks to gain insight into motivators for migration. When interviewing migrants who had left regions considered to be at high environmental risk, Vieira (2018) noted that the interviewees cited “...economic or political factors [for migrating] rather than environmental ones” (p. 303). This has also been seen in the work of Stojanov, Rosengaertner, de Sherbinin & Nawrotzki (2021) who note that “...migrants, when interviewed, still primarily cite economic motivations for moving” (p. 212). Other authors discuss economic opportunity and employment as the leading driver of migration (Leal Filho & Nalau, 2018, p. 85). As climate change affects the natural environment vital for communities' sustenance, they seek employment and economic stability elsewhere, shifting the focus of migration from climate change itself. This is where the complexity of climate-affected migration push factors resides, as isolating climate neglects to acknowledge the role of climate change on other push factors. Murray (2010) states “...people who migrate because of ‘gradually deteriorating living conditions’ are regarded as economic migrants, and as such have no recourse to any of the international instruments that differentially protected the rights of internally displaced people, asylum seekers, and refugees” (p. 91)

In addition to the complexity of isolating climate change as the direct cause of migration, the differentiation between slow and sudden onset environmental and climate events needs to be acknowledged, as this will greatly influence policy responses. Slow onset events are understood to be “gradual environmental changes such as drought, sea-level rise or soil erosion whose impact builds up over time” (Kraler, Katsiaficas & Wagner, 2020, p. 12), whereas sudden onset events are categorized as “events such as extreme weather events like flooding or storms that strike suddenly and have an immediate impact” (ibid., p. 12). There are several policy options available for sudden-onset climate events, both within countries of origin and for cross-border migration, such as humanitarian and compassionate visas and the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 1997, p.3); however, this literature review focuses on slow-onset climate-affected migration where policy options are still emerging.

One of the complications of the nexus of climate-affected migration in the Canadian context is discussed by Murray (2010) who contends “as long as the ambiguity of multi-causalities holds credence, Canada may choose to prioritize security rather than develop any rights-based policy on environmental migrants” (p. 92). Murray (2010) is not the only author who emphasizes the intersection of rights-based policy with climate-affected migration; in fact, human rights concerns have been widely cited in the literature as a significant consideration when exploring policy avenues for climate-affected migration (Kraler, Katsiaficas & Wagner, 2020, p. 13; Gromilova, 2016, p. 120; Abjibade, Sullivan & Haeffner, 2020, p. 3; Standing, 2011, p. 14).

Human rights and climate-affected migration

The role of human rights concerning climate-affected migrants has sparked considerable debate. Some authors argue that countries with the highest pollution levels have a moral obligation to support communities most impacted by climate change (Ahmed, 2018, p. 17), while others emphasize the importance of human rights obligations at various stages of the migration journey (Abjibade, Sullivan & Haeffner, 2020, p. 3). The *Teitiota v. New Zealand* case in 2020 has established a significant legal recognition of human rights in relation to climate change (UNHCR, 2020, p. 1). In this landmark ruling, the UNHCR determined that New Zealand violated Mr. Teitiota's right to life by deporting him back to Kiribati, which he argued was uninhabitable due to the slow onset effects of climate change (Galloway, 2022, pp. 8-14). This decision has intensified ongoing debates in the literature regarding the intersection of human rights and climate-affected migration (Kraler, Katsiaficas & Wagner, 2020, p. 13).

Human rights obligations at the place of origin have been emphasized by the UNHCR as far back as 2015, when it was noted "...that some of the rights most significantly affected by climate change moving forward will be rights to life, self-determination, development, food, water and sanitation, health, housing, education, and meaningful and informed participation" (Economics, Resources and International Affairs Division (ERIAD), 2020, p. 4). Other authors contend that "the right to take part in cultural life" (Gromilova, 2016, p. 120) and the right to freedom of movement (Abjibade, Sullivan & Haeffner, 2020, p. 3) are relevant with respect to climate-affected migration. The latter argument focuses on the physical risks, economic support challenges and limited resettlement options, including the right to citizenship, that climate-affected migrants may encounter during their migration journey (*ibid.*, p. 3). Once migrants have settled in a host country, authors have acknowledged that migrants often receive fewer rights than citizens in the host country including access to basic services (Standing, 2011, p. 14).

The resulting critique of rights-based policies in the literature emphasizes the importance of maintaining the standards of international human rights law with all migrants regardless of immigration category (Gemenne, Mokhnacheva & Ionesco, 2016, p. 94). In fact, Biermann & Boas (2010) outlined a core institutional principle for climate-affected migrants as "...the principle of collective rights for local populations" (pp. 75-76) and McAdam (2011) advocated for climate-affected migrants themselves to be consulted about "...their own views about how they want to be perceived, [which] may ultimately better facilitate a human rights approach" (pp. 17-18). The literature agrees that human rights considerations are critical at all levels of climate-affected migration and needs to be a key element of policy development which is not always adequately accounted for. The intersection of human rights principles and proactive policy solutions to climate-affected migration is the final overarching theme in the literature, as proactive policy acknowledges the reality of climate-affected migration and seeks to address human rights principles.

Proactive policy targeted to climate-affected migrants

Across the literature there is a consensus that proactive policy targeted toward facilitating climate-affected migration is crucial. McLeman (2020) states "migration in and of itself is neither inherently adaptive nor maladaptive...it is the conditions under which migration occurs that determines whether it generates benefits or leads to greater hardship" (p. 27). Facilitating adaptive migration occurs through "anticipating the effects of climate change and taking actions before major impacts occur" (Richardson, 2010, p. i), while also ensuring that climate-affected migrants have reasonable access to protection through adequate policies (McLeman, 2020, p. 27). The ground-breaking *Foresight Report* released in 2011 stressed that climate-affected

migration is inevitable, though the scale is not known, and as a result recommended “...future-resilient policies” targeted towards trapped populations and “proactively facilitated and managed migration... [which will] build...resilience and transform...adaptive capacity” (The Government Office for Science, London, 2011, p. 17). Finally, Ghosh & Orchiston (2022) state “policies need to be future-looking in preparation for a rapid and significant increase in climate-related migration across the globe...it is important for receiving countries to anticipate an upsurge in migration by developing appropriate policies to support new migrants, particularly regarding visa and immigration arrangements” (p. 47).

An emerging example of a potential proactive policy is that of the proposed Climate Displaced Person’s Act in the United States, which was introduced in 2019, and is currently under review by the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship (congress.gov., n.d., para’s. 1-3). This bill “...aims to welcome up to 50,000 [climate-affected migrants] per year to the United States” (Ajibade, et al., 2020, p. 6). Alongside this proposed bill is Executive Order 14033 titled: Executive Order on Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs to Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of Climate Change on Migration (The White House, 2021a). This is a potential example of a proactive policy option that addresses human rights obligations; however, remains the only tangible example of emerging policy response that is specific to climate-affected migration. Other proactive policy options have been discussed theoretically in the literature, which will be explored in the following section, as these could be key areas that Canada could explore for climate-affected migration policy reform.

Policy specific themes

The five themes discussed above provide essential context for understanding climate-affected migration and highlight their importance in shaping any promising practices for addressing this issue. This section briefly outlines the policy options most frequently discussed in the literature, serving as a preliminary framework for the more in-depth policy-specific research to be conducted later in the project. Throughout the literature review key themes were identified and thematically organized, resulting in five principal categories that will guide the research direction. These categories include planned relocation and resettlement, humanitarian and compassionate visas, new policies targeting climate-affected migration, labour pathways, and the implementation of multiple policy options.

A *word cloud*, seen in Figure 1, was generated using a thematic table where recommended policy responses were recorded alongside the author making the recommendation. Several key phrases including labour, temporary, resettlement, humanitarian, bilateral, agreements, and visas, are evident, which can be seen in figure 1. The *word cloud* makes words larger based on the number of times that they are mentioned which translates to how important the word is for consideration, and is a common tool utilized in qualitative text analysis. The *word cloud* is significant because it visually displays policy options and recommendations discussed in the literature. Largely missing in the *word cloud* is Canada, which is also seen throughout this literature review, as noted in the introduction given the limited discussion taking place in Canada surrounding international climate-affected migration.

Figure 1

Policy recommendations word cloud

Humanitarian and compassionate visas

Humanitarian and compassionate visa options were cited numerous times in the literature by a variety of authors as a policy solution to climate-affected migration. Huckstep & Clemens (2023) noted the role of humanitarian visas in opening pathways for climate-affected migrants; however, they do note that these are often discretionary when issued (p. 276). The White House (2021b) acknowledges the role of humanitarian visas in other countries when addressing environmental disaster (p. 21) in their report on climate change and migration. Specific to Canada, Meighen, Boyd & Bueno (2021) present humanitarian and compassionate visas as a way that Canada can immediately respond to climate-affected migration (para's. 7-9) with CARL (2021) contesting that the existing Canadian humanitarian visas are "...inadequate for contending with the growing scale of [climate-affected migrants]" given their ad hoc nature (p. 11). One research participant argued that a "precedent [that] has been set [that] does seem more likely to [continue] to be governed through unilateral, bilateral and potentially regional approaches on a kind of ad hoc stabilized basis" when considering what Canada's response may be to climate-affected migration. In order to reconcile the restrictive and ad hoc nature of humanitarian visas in Canada, CARL (2021) advocates for reform to the humanitarian and compassionate visa guidelines (p. 11). The literature has revealed that the inconsistent utilization and restrictive nature of humanitarian and compassionate visas make this option unlikely to be successful without further reform, this leads to the consideration of more structured visa options such as that of temporary labour schemes.

Temporary labour schemes

Temporary labour schemes were referred to numerous times throughout the literature with all authors contending that this could be a viable option for climate-affected migration. The Foresight Report (2011) cites the win-win of labour migration schemes on both climate-affected migrants and countries facing demographic deficits (The Government Office for Science, London, 2011, p. 22). Mayer (2013a) also notes research that discusses the significance of labour mobility on climate-affected migration (p. 101). Glahn (2009) discusses the positive implications on immigration policy and the "...complicated chasm of international legal definitions and asylum policy" (p. 50) that labour migration policy can have, as it "could use as a means to loosen their immigration gates" (ibid., p. 50).

In recent years labour schemes have gained traction in the literature even further with Vieira (2018) stating that a feasible response to climate-affected migration is "...to open regular international channels for migrations, particularly considering temporary work, seasonal or circular migrations, and extending the reach of bilateral agreements" (p. 307). The validity of labour schemes as an adaptation response to climate change is noted in the works of The White House (2021a, p. 21), Draper (2022, p. 1012), and Traore Chazalnoël & Ionesco (2022) who acknowledge that labour schemes "provid[e] opportunities to access regular migration pathways...to those who cannot adapt to climate impacts" (p. 56). Huckstep & Clemens (2023) discuss the role of place-based visas as a complementary policy option to offer alongside labour schemes (p. 283), which aligns with some place-based visa options that are focused on labour agreements in Canada. The literature also addresses the consideration of new policies for climate-affected migration, which is reviewed below.

New policies specific to climate-affected migration

Despite the complexities and contentious debates over the definition of climate-affected migrants, many authors have proposed new policies tailored to climate-affected migration (German Advisory Council on Global Change [GCGC], 2018, pp. 28-30; O'Connor, Bruch &

Maekawa, 2019, p. 1257; Wyman, 2013, p. 207). These options include leveraging existing bilateral agreements (Wyman, 2013, p. 207), implementing visa lotteries (GCCG, 2018, pp. 28-30), and establishing temporary protection or stay agreements (O'Connor, Bruch & Maekawa, 2019, p. 1257). One option proposed through Germany was that of a climate passport where individuals impacted by climate change are able to freely move internationally (German Advisory Council on Global Change, 2018, pp. 28-30). O'Connor, Bruch & Maekawa (2019) outline various options including "...expedited visas for environmental migrants and citizens of states that are particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change...indefinite stays...creation of a list of states experiencing severe effects of climate change and displaying signs of future uninhabitability" (p. 1257). Wyman (2013) suggests leveraging bilateral agreements and working with vulnerable countries to develop policies specific to climate-affected migration (p. 207). The adaptation of temporary protection policies to be more amenable to climate-affected migration is emphasized by the UNHCR (2020, pp. 10-11) and Glahn (2009, p. 52). Others, such as Huckstep & Clemens (2023) discuss the implications of a visa lottery targeted towards climate-affected migrants in an attempt to maintain equity in migration and ensure that populations do not become trapped due to their personal circumstances (p. 293). CARL (2021) suggests the addition of a public policy class specific to climate-affected migrants (p. 12). Finally, Gemenne, Mokhnacheva & Ionesco (2016) advocate "...a flexible approach covering different legal fields, elements of soft law, and migration policies" (p. 94). The diversity in recommendations for new policy directions is extensive, and is outside of the scope of this project, as the purpose of this project is to focus on existing promising practices. Given the significance of new policies in the literature this will be explored further in the jurisdictional scan and discussion sections of this project.

The importance of creating a new policy specific to international climate-affected migration is evident and is even underway in countries such as the United States through their proposed Climate Displaced Persons Act (Rep. Velázquez, 2019, para's. 1-3). This process is not instantaneous and takes time to implement. Given the reality that Canada is not having discussions about developing a specific policy for climate-affected migration at this time, and the barriers to other existing policy routes discussed, authors have stressed the importance of considering multiple existing policy options to address climate-affected migration.

Multiple policy options

Given the complexity of climate-affected migration, authors in the literature stress the importance of multiple policy options (Betts, 2010, p. 377; Gromilova, 2016, p. 139; Wyman, 2013, p. 207; Traore Chazalnoël & Randall, 2022). This includes expanding and reforming existing policy to make it inclusive of climate-affected migration (Traore Chazalnoël & Randall, 2022, p. 14), finding ways to navigate existing policy (Betts, 2010, p. 377), and working bilaterally to develop climate-affected migration specific policies (Wyman, 2013, p. 207). Although multiple policy responses to climate-affected migration are identified by foundational authors in the literature, there remains several unanswered questions and gaps in the literature that need further exploration. Gaining a deeper understanding of how these policy options and overarching themes relate to the current Canadian context is essential and is discussed in the next section.

The Canadian Context

Academic discussions focused on Canada's ideal response to climate-affected migration are limited, primarily addressing how Canada has historically handled humanitarian and refugee crises (Omeziri & Gore, 2014, p. 49). These discussions highlight the risks of relying on these

pathways to effectively address climate-affected migration (ibid., p. 49). Further, the role of Canada as a host country for climate-affected migrants was discussed throughout the literature (Meighen, et al., 2021, para. 5; Kaduuli, 2020, para. 1; Mir, et al., 2020, p. 1), due to Canada's moral responsibility as a top global greenhouse gas emitter (Kaduuli, 2020, para. 1), how Canada is perceived internationally as a leading country for refugee resettlement (Mir, et al., 2020, p. 1), and given Canada's commitment to be a Champion Country for the Global Compact on Migration (Galloway, 2022, pp. 27-28). Regardless of the discussions taking place in academia and the media, Canada has no plan to support international climate-affected migration. For example, the mention of climate-affected migration is non-existent in Canada's Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada's [IRCC] (2023d) 2024-2026 Immigration Levels plan which is a strategy and commitment to international migration. The existing plan contravenes recommendations made by Traore Chazalnoël & Ionesco (2022) who argue: "...important points raised are the necessity to integrate climate change and migration issues when formulating national law, policies, and strategies" (Traore Chazalnoël & Ionesco, 2022, p. 44). Indeed, there is significant emphasis in the literature surrounding Canada's role in supporting climate-affected migration; however, there is also significant debate about the problematic nature of Canada's current immigration system specifically related to human rights obligations.

A white paper for the Library of Parliament specifies "unlike in many countries, in Canada the constitution does not explicitly include the right to a healthy or safe environment...nevertheless, a wide variety of firmly established rights in Canada that draw on international human rights obligations are expected to be affected by climate change... [such as] the rights to life and security of the person; non-discrimination and the rights of children" (ERIAD, 2020, p. 4). In addition to critiques of the constitution regarding climate change and human rights for Canadian citizens and permanent residents, there are discussions about "the uneven allocation of rights to immigrants and migrants [in Canada], facilitated by a complex immigration bureaucracy" (Roberts, 2020, p. 974). Roberts (2020) supports this argument by clarifying that "... built into [Canadian] immigration classifications are market-centric assumptions about the factors that make immigration valuable and make certain immigrants desirable for long-term settlement in Canada, as well as the role the state should take in supporting immigrants and migrants" (p. 974). Galloway (2022) validates this by stating "to date, Canada has not systematically applied a human rights lens to domestic or international climate migration...Canada is a signatory to several international agreements that have begun to consider migration and displacement in the context of climate change" (p. 26). The literature also addresses the issues surrounding existing immigration options for addressing climate-affected migration.

Canada's emphasis on temporary labour schemes is widely known and is reinforced through their 2024-2026 Immigration Levels Plan, which prioritizes economic migration over other avenues of immigration (IRCC, 2023). Roberts (2020) acknowledges the rights gaps that exist for migrant workers by stating "...unlike permanent residents and Canadian citizens, [economic migrants] are permitted to work in Canada only for short durations, with limitations placed on who they can work for, where they can live, and what services they have available to support them" (Roberts, 2020, p. 974). Furthering this argument is Ramsaroop (2023) who emphasizes "for migrant labourers, the nature of the agricultural industry in countries like Canada creates a vicious feedback loop: the climate crisis and imperialism have made life in many countries in the Global South untenable...migrants must come to Canada...to find work, and that work is often in sectors like agriculture, where industry practices contribute to the

climate crisis that migrants are fleeing” (p. 17). ERIAD (2020) notes "considering there is no legal status for those who cross an international border due to environment-related events, there is no overall data on their number...such migrants are often categorized as migrants under economic streams" (p. 12). This aligns with ongoing definitional challenges and the nexus of climate-affected migration discussed above, and amplifies the lack of proactive policies and rights-centered responses to climate-affected migration. The first section of the literature review focuses on contextualizing climate-affected migration to ensure that this phenomenon is thoroughly understood in relation to potential policy responses. The second section examines the most frequently cited policy options for addressing climate-affected migration. The final section examines the discussion in the literature specific to Canada’s immigration regime. Together, these sections establish a framework for the research project while also highlighting gaps and unanswered questions that will need to be addressed throughout the study.

Gaps and unanswered questions

After completing an integrative literature review, themes were organized to gain deeper insight into the issue of climate-affected migration. The thematic analysis resulted in establishing what we know about climate-affected migration, and things that we do not know that require further exploration. Figure 2 presents a *literature review matrix* that highlights the identified themes within the literature, contrasting what is known about climate-affected migration policy with what remains unknown or absent from the literature. As outlined above, the first section addresses general themes related to climate-affected migration policy that contribute to effective policy development, with the second section discussing the most cited policy options in the literature.

Although some elements, such as defining climate-affected migrants or when human rights principles should be enacted, show disagreement between authors, all the general themes still influence considerations for future policy directions in the Canadian context and inform policy directions and recommendations. Consensus amongst authors was displayed about the complexity of the nexus of climate-affected migration emphasizing that migration is multi-faceted and isolating climate as the single and direct driver of migration is impossible and short-sighted. The ongoing disagreement about how climate-affected migration should be defined underscores the complexity of climate-affected migration and problematizes the practicality of a specific policy directly targeted towards climate-affected migration. Many disagreements about the feasibility of including climate-affected migrants under the 1951 Refugee Convention have been observed throughout the literature over the decades; however, there is now agreement that to include climate-affected migrants under the Refugee Convention would erode the intention of the convention causing confusion around the classifications and guidelines which guarantee refugees refugee status. This again becomes an issue around classifying and defining climate-affected migrants and migration.

Regardless of the policy direction a government takes, the literature was consistent in emphasizing the importance of prioritizing human rights principles throughout the migration journey and developing proactive climate-affected migration policy strategies. Five different policy options were discussed as a secondary theme analysis and included: *relocation and resettlement; humanitarian and compassionate visas; new policies for climate-affected migration; temporary labour migration schemes; and adaptation of multiple existing policies to be inclusive of climate-affected migrants*. Figure 2 is a visual representation of the literature review findings which informed the conceptual framework that guided the research.

Figure 2

Literature review matrix

Literature Review Themes/What We Know	Gaps/What We Don't Know
The complexity of the nexus of climate-affected migration	Consensus among authors
Climate-affected migration is too complex to define	If we cannot have consensus on how to define climate-affected migration and this is required for policy development, how can a new policy approach be adopted?
Climate-affected migration does not fit under the Refugee Convention, and is not likely to ever fit	A definitive discussion regarding this has taken place over the decades and is unlikely to change.
The role of human rights principles in policies surrounding climate-affected migration	There is consensus in the literature around the need for human rights principles throughout all levels of (im)migration policy, and an awareness that this is often missing in various Canadian policies.
The need to proactively prepare through adequate policy Proactive policy migrants	There is consensus that proactive policy targeted to addressing climate-affected migration is needed in addition to sufficient biopsychosocial infrastructure to support cultural autonomy alongside ethical integration into host countries.
Relocation is not the answer	Relocating entire communities is not a realistic response to climate-affected migration in Canadian policy, nor is it likely to be an option in the future.
Humanitarian and compassionate visas are an option	<p>Humanitarian and compassionate visas are often for severe human rights violations triggered under the refugee convention and for severe environmental events that displace communities; however, we do not know how humanitarian and compassionate visas could be applied to slow onset climate change that influences climate-affected migration.</p> <p>We do know that Canada plans to reduce humanitarian and compassionate visas over the next 3 years as seen in their immigration levels plan, so this area is not explored further in this project.</p>
New policies specific to climate-affected migration are an option	We know that there is contention around how we, and if we should, define climate affected migrants in addition to the complexity of the nexus of climate-affected migration. This

	indicates that exploration is needed into policies that have attempted to address climate-affected migration, and their success.
Temporary labour migration schemes are an option	How could labour migration schemes address climate-affected migration in vulnerable and trapped populations?
We need multiple policy options	How do policy options fit into Canada's Immigration Levels Plan?

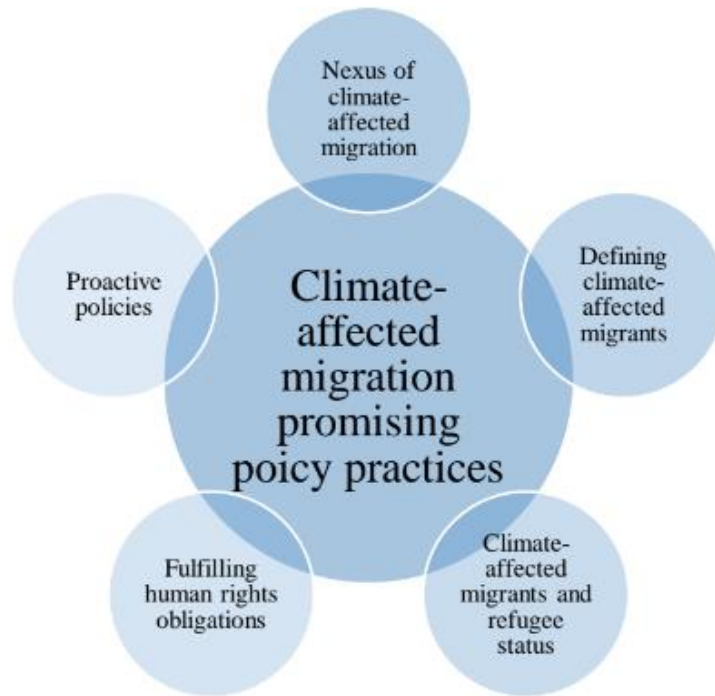
Conceptual framework

The *conceptual framework* guides the research and defined the project's scope, and can be seen in figure 3. Insights from the literature review highlighted key themes that influence policy direction regarding climate-affected migration. The table above in figure 2 informs the conceptual framework for the project as they identify gaps and unanswered questions that need to be addressed. The five key themes that contextualize climate-affected migration are essential for exploring promising practices. The analysis indicates that only three policy responses warrant further investigation, as relocation and resettlement are not feasible within the Canadian context. While the importance of multiple policy options persists, it is not applicable to the policy-specific research, leading to the exclusion of both considerations from the conceptual framework. The themes depicted in the circles in figure 3 provide context for this phenomenon and are crucial when exploring policy options. They were consistently considered when analyzing the data and presenting findings in Chapter Four (p. 39) the international and regional jurisdictional scan, in Chapter Five (p. 47) the international and regional stakeholder analysis in, and in Chapter Six (p. 59) the Canada-specific jurisdictional scan,

The overarching themes that informed the exploration of promising practices were categorized into five areas: the nexus of climate-affected migration; the definition of climate-affected migrants; the role of refugee status; the fulfillment of human rights obligations through policy responses; and the importance of proactive policies. These considerations informed the analysis of three widely cited policy responses: modifying humanitarian and compassionate visas, creating a new policy for climate-affected migrants, and adapting temporary labour schemes.

Figure 3

Conceptual framework



Influenced promising practices exploration of:



Modifying Humanitarian and Compassionate Visas



Creating a New Policy for Climate-Affected Migration



Adapting Temporary Labour Schemes

Conclusion

The literature review revealed the multiplicity of differing opinions on how to reconcile policy options targeted towards climate-affected migration. Consistent in the literature are

general themes that are fundamental to any policy response directed towards climate-affected migration. The *conceptual framework* revealed that promising practices to climate-affected migration must take into account the nexus of climate-affected migration, the complexity of defining climate-affected migrants, the differentiation between climate-affected migrants and refugees, the importance of a human rights framework in policy design, and the importance of proactive policy responses toward climate-affected migration, which exposed three key policy areas for further exploration including humanitarian and compassionate visas, new policies for climate-affected migration, and adapting existing temporary labour schemes. This resulted in the primary research question of this project: *in climate-affected migrant immigration policy what international promising practices and policies are emerging that could be applicable in the Canadian context?* Given the criticism of Canada on maintaining human rights commitments, this becomes a feasible area to explore for future policy considerations for climate-affected migration that is rooted in a rights-based framework.

After completion of the literature review and defining the research question, an international jurisdictional scan is presented to better understand the international context of climate-affected migration through agreed upon frameworks and commitments as these have ramifications on policy decisions. This was followed by a deeper look into the Canadian context of immigration, and specifically, the country's interest in exploring options to support climate-affected migration alongside identification of key government actors in policy implementation and design. Both sections included a stakeholder analysis that explored institutions involved at various levels ranging from international agencies to Canadian federal departments revealing levels of influence which had power to propel change at the Canadian federal level in relation to climate-affected migration policy. The discussion reconciles the jurisdictional scan and stakeholder analysis by answering the research questions and addressing the feasibility of promising practices in the Canadian context with a focus on rights-based principles. Finally, recommendations are made surrounding the implications of this research project revealing avenues for future research.

Chapter Four: International and Regional Jurisdictional Scan Findings

Introduction

The research findings are presented as a jurisdictional scan in this chapter to explore the landscape of climate-affected migration policy so that its implications within the Canadian context can be assessed. This chapter examines various jurisdictions, including international governance organizations like the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration [IOM], as well as regional entities with frameworks addressing climate-affected migration. Given the international relevance of climate-affected migration it is critical to examine responses and discussions related to the phenomenon at the international, regional and national sphere. This chapter presents key findings, and a descriptive interpretation of the results which is broken down into three sections: international, regional, and national jurisdictional scans. The intention of this jurisdictional scan is to examine any historical or current promising practices related to climate-affected migration policy to answer the central research question of this study: *in climate-affected migrant immigration policy what international promising practices and policies are emerging that could be applicable in the Canadian context?*

This chapter begins with a summary of the key findings, and then delves deeper into a description of the results of the jurisdictional scan. The results are presented beginning at the international level to show overarching frameworks and agreements that may inform various regional and national policy responses to climate-affected migration. Regional responses are briefly discussed, followed by national approaches. It is important to note that national responses in this jurisdictional scan are limited to the federal level, and exclude provincial, state, and municipal solutions to climate-affected migration, as this is outside of the scope of this project. The rationale for this will be further discussed in the stakeholder analysis.

Summary of Key Findings

Most agreements and policies focus specifically on environmental disasters, and neglect consideration of slow-onset climate change (Glahn, 2009, p. 50). As policies become state-led or national there are limited options that incorporate climate-affected migration. At the international level frameworks have emerged over the decades that directly address human migration as it relates to environmental and climate changes and include the United Nations Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (1998), the Kampala Convention (2012), the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (2013), the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change (2015), the Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster (2016), the Platform on Disaster Displacement (2016), and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (2018).

Figure 4 shows a *timeline of frameworks and policies* that are relevant to climate-affected migration policy. International agreements are shown in pink, regional agreements in blue, and national policies or frameworks are shown in yellow. Visually one can see that there is a reduction in relevant frameworks going from the macrosystem to microsystem. This has implications for the direction of the research that was conducted in this project.

Description of Findings

International Frameworks and Policies

International institutions have been discussing climate-affected migration dating back to 1985 (Biermann & Boas, 2010, p. 62), with the United Nations recently developing frameworks and guidelines to support countries in adopting policies and practices related to international climate-affected migration. The international component of this jurisdictional scan explores

frameworks and agreements developed by the United Nations and the role of the IOM in supporting those frameworks. This scan is presented chronologically and can be seen in Figure 4 to show the development of climate-affected migration discussions and frameworks that spanned decades to culminate in the most recent and relevant framework: the 2018 United Nations Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

Figure 4

Timeline of frameworks and policies

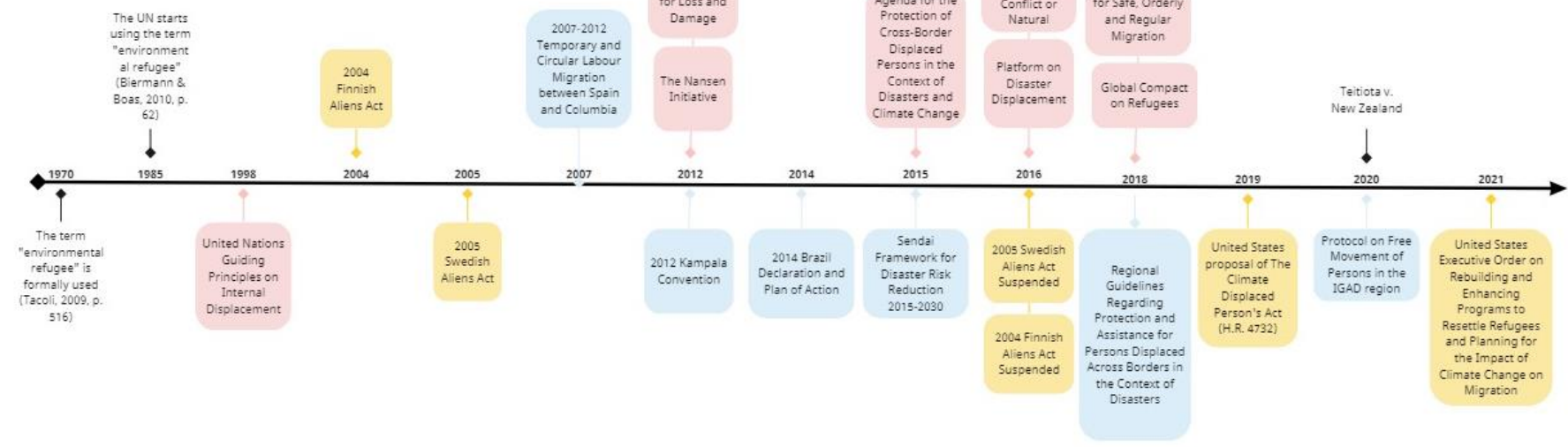
Legend

International Frameworks

Regional Frameworks

National Frameworks

Background Information



Author's notes and adapted from: Kraker, A., Katsifikas, C., & Wagner, M. (2020). *Climate change and migration: Legal and policy challenges and responses to environmentally induced migration*. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/343713092_Climate_Change_and_Migration_-_Legal_and_policy_challenges_and_responses_to_environmentally_induced_migration

Findings and discussion

This section addresses the findings of international frameworks including when they were released and their significance to climate-affected migration policy. The first significant document released through the United Nations is the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, which were released in 1998 and built on existing law to provide guidance on the prevalence of forced internal displacement and migration (Gemenne & Brucker, 2015, pp. 260-261; United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 2004, p. 1). These principles "...defined the equal importance of humanitarian assistance and human rights protection" (ibid., p. 250), but neglect to address the logistics of forced migration including financial arrangements and migration management (Gemenne & Brucker, 2015, p. 249). Although the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement are not specifically applied to climate-affected migration, they "...highlight the linkage between climate change, other potential threats, and human mobility - for instance, highlighting that climate change impacts might contribute to the destabilization of societies, adverse economic, health and security impacts, which in turn could lead to a potential increase of population movements" (IOM, 2020a, p. 23). The successful implementation of the principles in various regions and countries has been applauded and is attributed to "...a needs-based approach...a foundation in three existing branches of law - human rights law, humanitarian law and refugee law...establishing a conceptual approach respectful of sovereignty... [and a] dissemination plan" (Cohen, 2013,). The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement laid the groundwork for successful migration frameworks to develop in the coming years.

The Nansen Initiative (2015), launched in 2012, sought to "...address legal gaps" (Gemenne & Brucker, 2015, p. 261) through "...a state-led, bottom-up consultative process intended to build consensus on the development of a protection agenda addressing the needs of people displaced across international borders in the context of disasters and the effects of climate change" (IOM, 2024a, para. 1). The work conducted under the Nansen Initiative (2015) led into the 2015 Platform on Disaster Displacement which "...is a nonbinding international document that identifies practical solutions and existing state practices that address the impacts of climate change and natural disasters on forced cross-border migration" (Galloway, 2022, p. 26).

The following year, in 2013, the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (2013) was introduced by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change [UNFCCC]. This mechanism aimed to encourage nations to develop and implement "...laws, policies and strategies that address all forms of migration linked to climate impacts, while taking into account States' human rights obligations; strengthening research and analysis on the topic; [and] inviting states to facilitate orderly, safe and regular migration in the context of adverse climate impacts" (Traore Chazalnoël & Ionesco, 2022, p. 9). This messaging was furthered in the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda (2015) under target 10.7 to "facilitate orderly, safe, and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies" (Kaczan & Orgill-Meyer, 2019, p. 282). Although climate-affected migration is not specified in the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, the importance of effective migration management targeted towards the most vulnerable populations is noted in numbers 8, 10 and 17 of the Sustainable Development Goals (Stojanov, Rosengaertner, de Sherbinin & Nawrotzki, 2021, p. 214; Wilkinson, Schipper & Simonet, 2016, p. 7).

More specific to climate-affected migration, the Migrants in Countries in Crisis Initiative [MICIC] launched the Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or

Natural Disasters (MICIC, 2024) which furthered the discussion of protection for migrants (IOM, 2024b, para. 1). The interweaving of refugees and environmental disasters remained prevalent for many years, until 2018 with the development of two global compacts which separated the two. The Global Compact on Refugees (2024) focuses specifically on "...more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing" (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], 2024, para. 1), whereas the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration [GCM] (2018) "...explicitly encourages states to cooperate in the development of programs that facilitate international migration and help migrants integrate upon arrival" (McLeman, 2020, p. 9). Although the GCM does not directly address climate-affected migration it does validate that "...regular migration pathways [are] seen as a necessary migration management tool in the context of climate change" (Task Force on Displacement Activity 11.2., 2018, p. 9). The importance of regular migration pathways is seen in objective 5 which aims to "enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration." (GCM, 2018, p. 11). O'Connor, Bruch & Maekawa (2019) contend that "this...can be achieved...through skills matching programs and bilateral, regional, and cross-regional labor mobility agreements, such as free movement regimes, visa liberalization or multiple country visas, and labour mobility cooperation frameworks" (p. 1256).

Several departments within the United Nations have significantly contributed to development and implementation of the discussed frameworks. However, it is important to acknowledge the role of other international organizations in supporting these initiatives, either through direct contributions to the consultative process or by collaborating and consulting with governments interested in applying the frameworks. The IOM has played a leading role in a lot of the work conducted under the United Nations and provides ongoing consultation regarding forced migration. Other organizations that play active roles in supporting migration efforts are further discussed in the stakeholder analysis chapter of this project (p. 48), and include the Centre for Global Development, the International Centre for Migration and Policy Development, the International Red Cross, the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the V20 Group. Their work is extremely relevant in the execution of policy reform and development but does not include existing policy frameworks that can be explored in this scan.

This section provided insight into the role of international organizations in establishing frameworks that regions and countries can use to develop and implement policies specific to climate-affected migration. It revealed that no legally binding policy has been developed at the international level. This is crucial, as understanding the international context is pivotal to addressing this project's central research question, as Canada's commitments to numerous international agreements and frameworks have far-reaching implications. These commitments not only shape regional frameworks but also influence the policies that will be examined in the subsequent discussion.

Regional Frameworks and Policies

Given that the international frameworks to support migration are not legally binding, nor are they specific to climate-affected migration, it is worth exploring regional approaches that may provide a template for consideration in Canada. In fact, McAdam (2011) stipulates that "although...regional responses may not seem as gratifying for some as securing a universal international treaty on climate-related movement, they may in fact be able to more swiftly and effectively provided targeted outcomes, which respond as particular scenarios in particular geographical areas unfold" (p. 26). This statement was also reflected in two interviews that took

place for this project where interviewees emphasized the importance of coordinated regional and bi-lateral responses to climate-affected migration. Regional and bi-lateral frameworks and agreements related to climate-affected migration are situated within the countries most impacted by climate change, including within Africa, Central America and the Pacific and Caribbean Small Island Developing States (Traore Chazalnoël & Ionesco, 2022, p. 51).

One example of a successful regional approach is the 2007-2012 Temporary and Circular Labour Migration (TCLM) Model between Columbia and Spain, which was the first and only labour migration agreement between two countries with a focus on environmental vulnerability in the place of origin (Center for Global Development, 2021, para. 1). Other relevant regional approaches are the 2012 Kampala Convention, which focuses on regional approaches to natural disasters (Kraler, et al., 2020, p. 46), and the 2014 Brazil Declaration and Plan of Action which does specify protections for people who have to leave their homes "...due to climate change or disasters" (ibid., p. 47). The 2015 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction "... recognises that displacement is one of the most devastating consequences of disasters, and that disaster risk reduction requires 'protecting persons and their property, health, livelihoods and productive assets, as well as cultural and environmental assets, while promoting and protecting all human rights'" (McAdam, 2016, p. 1528). In 2018 the South American Conference on Migration developed the Regional Guidelines Regarding Protection and Assistance for Persons Displaced Across Borders in the Context of Disasters, which has a specific focus on "cross-border displacement due to climate change or natural disasters and migrants already in countries experiencing natural disasters" (Kraler, et al., 2020, p. 47). Finally, in 2020 the Intergovernmental Authority on Development [IGAD] proposed the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons in the IGAD Region, which is primarily focused on internal displacement due to disasters (ibid., p. 47). These regional agreements are primarily focused on involuntary displacement due to sudden-onset environmental disasters, with little mention on slow-onset climate-affected migration apart from the Brazil Declaration Plan of Action which specifies climate change. One research participant acknowledged:

"We have a lot of disasters that are slow-onset, like drought, sea-level rise, in this case, it is a particular event, but in this case...it doesn't trigger an emergency response".

What has been revealed within this section is that international frameworks and organizations have had significant influence on the design of practical responses to climate-affected migration, as shown through the development of regional and bi-lateral responses to the phenomenon. Policies and frameworks at the national level are even more sparse when it comes to addressing climate-affected migration and are explored further in the next section.

National Frameworks and Policies

Further exploration was done to examine the role of internal and regional frameworks in influencing national policy responses to climate-affected migration. One research participant stressed: "I don't think there's any possibility of pathways that are explicitly targeted towards climate migrants". However, a critical finding was that national examples of climate-affected migration policy are limited in the Global North, with three countries specifically exploring climate-affected migration within their immigration policies. These include Finland, Sweden and the United States. Both Finland and Sweden implemented their respective Aliens Acts which include "...asylum laws granting subsidiary protection for 'environmental migrants'" (Gromilova, 2016, p. 14). The Finnish Aliens Act came into effect in 2004 and strayed away from reclassifying the term refugee to include environmental migrants, or climate-affected migrants, but instead added a humanitarian protection category that extended to environmental

migrants (The Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers [CARL], 2021, p. 9). This meant that any "...alien residing in Finland [was] issued with a residence permit on the basis [of] humanitarian protection if they [could not] return [to their place of origin] because of an armed conflict or environmental disaster" (Gromilova, 2016, p. 14). The 2005 Swedish Aliens Act was similar in nature; however, stipulated that someone within Sweden did not have to return to their place of origin if they did "...not wish to return there because he or she...is unable to return to the native country because of an environmental disaster" (ibid., p. 14). The barriers of these acts were subsequently discussed with primarily implementation concerns surrounding their limited feasibility in "...continuous environmental decline" (Glahn, 2009, p. 50). In addition to this Glahn (2009) also emphasized that "...no person has ever been granted subsidiary protections in Sweden for environmental protections (p. 50). Both the Swedish and Finnish Aliens Acts were suspended in 2016 due to "...a high number of arrivals [of migrants] in 2015-16" (Kraler, et al., 2020, pp. 77-78), and have not been reinstated. The suspension of these policies does not extend to the suspension of the non-refoulement principle that exists under international human rights law, which stipulates "under international human rights...no one should be returned to a country where they would face torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and other irreparable harm" (UNHCR, n.d., p. 1)

The non-refoulement principle has gained significant traction in relation to the intersection of human rights and climate-affected migration as a result of the landmark *Teitiota v New Zealand* case in 2020. The non-refoulement principle "...prohibits states from transferring or removing individuals from their jurisdiction or effective control when there are substantial grounds for believing that the person would be at risk of irreparable harm upon return" (United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights, 2018, p. 1). Governments are now obligated to not return migrants to their place of origin when "...the impact of climate change is such that doing so would violate their right to life or expose them to a risk of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment" (Galloway, 2022, p. 4).

Although the non-refoulement principle is technically under international human rights law, nation-specific immigration and human rights policies incorporate this obligation into their legislations. Although many countries have non-refoulement principles in their policies, these principles are not well-suited to addressing migration caused by climate events. This is because individuals must be in the host country at the time of the environmental event and then navigate complex immigration procedures to be recognized as needing asylum due to that event.

An emerging policy in the Global North that focuses specifically on climate-affected migration is The Climate Displaced Person's Act that was introduced in 2019 in the United States, which "...aims to welcome up to 50,000 [climate-affected migrants] per year to the United States" (Ajibade, et al., 2020, p. 6). The Climate Displaced Person's Act was introduced in house in October of 2019 and has subsequently been referred to the subcommittee on immigration and citizenship in November of 2019 (Rep. Velázquez, 2019, para's. 1-3). The Congressional Research Service (n.d.) states that "*this bill generally addresses the response of federal agencies to climate change, including by providing for the admission to the United States of climate displaced persons, by requiring the Department of State to develop a Global Climate Change Resilience Strategy, and by requiring the Government Accountability Office to report on the progress made towards incorporating climate change into the policy of departments and agencies*" (para. 1). In addition to the proposal of this bill, in February of 2021 President Joe Biden signed Executive Order 1403 titled: Executive Order on Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs to Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of Climate Change on Migration

(The White House, 2021a). Section 6 of the executive order addresses climate change and migration by commissioning a report on climate change and its impact on migration which includes "...options for protection and resettlement of individuals displaced directly or indirectly from climate change; mechanisms for identifying such individuals, including through referrals; proposals for how these findings should affect use of United States foreign assistance to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change; and opportunities to work collaboratively with other countries, international organizations and bodies, non-governmental organizations, and localities to respond to migration resulting directly or indirectly from climate change" (The White House, 2021a, para. 61). The Report on the Impact of Climate Change on Migration was completed and released in October of 2021 and officially acknowledged the importance of the United States Government "...to focus on the complex interplay between climate change and migration" (The White House, 2021b, p. 5). Finally, in the United States Mission to the United Nations (2022) a commitment was made "to better address issues of protection in the context of climate change, the United States is considering ways to strengthen the application of existing protection frameworks, adjust U.S. protection mechanisms to better accommodate people fleeing the impacts of climate change, and evaluate the need for additional domestic legal protections for those who have no alternative but to migrate" (para. 9). The commitments and actions taken by the United States with regards to international climate-affected migration appear to be the first and may present a template for future policy action.

Conclusion

This findings chapter provided an international and regional jurisdictional scan to uncover which stakeholders have been involved in conversations and the design of frameworks for climate-affected migration policy. It revealed existing frameworks, historical examples, and initiatives currently underway. The findings in this chapter include the heavy emphasis on sudden-onset climate events in existing policies and frameworks, that policy responses are often specific to internal displacement and have been undertaken by countries in the Global South, that the role of international organizations with respect to climate-affected migration is primarily collaborative, and that there is only one emerging example of climate-affected migration policy in the United States

The intricate interplay among international, regional, and national frameworks underscores the significance of the secondary research questions outlined in this study (p. 13). These questions are poised to guide the exploration of feasible Canadian policy responses to climate-induced migration on the global stage. While the frameworks have been reviewed in this chapter, it is essential to fully understand the impact and role of the stakeholders mentioned in this chapter. This understanding is crucial for assessing the influence these stakeholders have in encouraging Canada to utilize existing frameworks and policies for climate-affected migration, a topic explored in the next chapter.

Chapter 5: International and Regional Stakeholder Analysis Findings

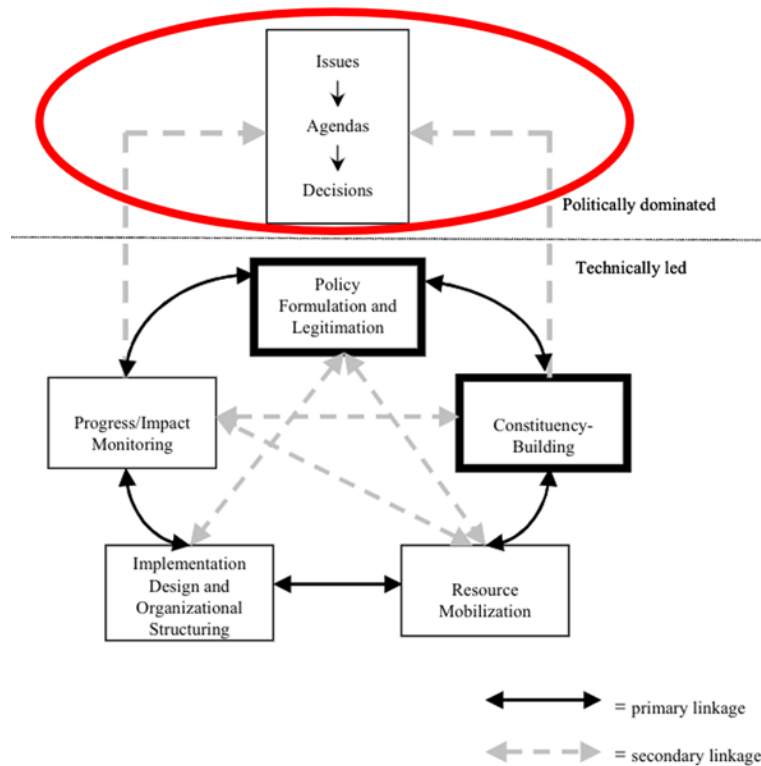
Introduction

The international jurisdiction scan in Chapter Four (p. 39) resulted in three findings. First, current policy responses primarily target internal displacement caused by sudden-onset events. Second, there is only one emerging policy addressing international climate-affected migration, and lastly, international organizations largely play a collaborative role in promoting policy changes, but not enforcing them. In light of these insights, this study now focuses on a comprehensive analysis of international and regional stakeholders to assess their influence and impact on Canadian immigration policy. A stakeholder is defined as someone with "...a vested interest in the policy" (Schmeer, 2000, p. 4). In this project, stakeholders exhibit characteristics aligned with Schmeer's (2000) criteria for policy-specific stakeholder analysis, including "...knowledge of policy, interests related to the policy...potential alliances with other stakeholders, and the ability to influence the policy process" (p. 4). This was crucial, as the findings from the international and regional jurisdictional scan in Chapter Four (p. 39) revealed that organizations like the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration [IOM], along with their respective policy frameworks, are primarily collaborative and lack the authority to enforce policy. The findings in Chapter Four (p. 39) also revealed that most climate-affected migration policy initiatives are occurring in the Global South. Therefore, examining the influence of international and regional stakeholders will help clarify how they can impact Canadian immigration policy. This chapter analyzes the power and influence of key stakeholders in climate-affected migration policy at the international and regional level.

Figure 5 is an image taken from Schmeer's (2000) article (p. 2-2) to visually articulate *the policy process* and justify why the stakeholders analyzed in this project have remained in the politically dominated realm of the process. As climate-affected migration policy does not exist in Canada the scope of this project will focus on addressing the issues, agendas and potential decisions related to climate-affected migration policy. This project seeks to examine promising practices in climate-affected migration policy and reform that may be applicable in the Canadian context, thus it is outside of the scope of the project to explore technically led stakeholder categories at this time. Schmeer's (2000) policy process separates the policy development process into two categories: the politically dominated and the technically led (p. 2-2). The politically dominated arena focuses on "...key players who have an investment in proposed reform" (ibid., p. 2-1), whereas the technically led category focuses on actionable items once reform has been decided upon (ibid., pp. 2-1-2-2). As this project focuses on examining promising practices and explores the avenues for application in the Canadian context, the stakeholder analyses focuses solely on stakeholders within the politically dominated category. As a result, the stakeholders discussed in this chapter are those who were identified throughout the data collection and analysis and were discussed as key stakeholders in climate-affected migration policy at the international and regional levels.

Figure 5

The policy process



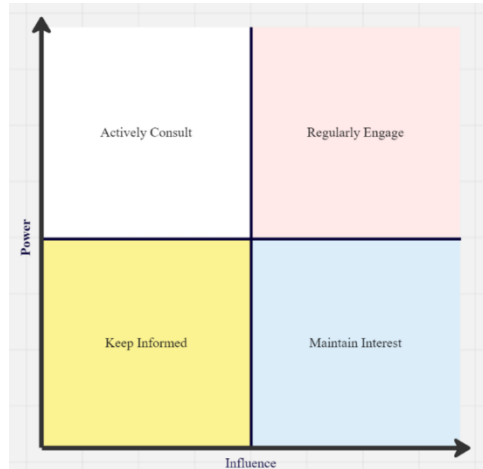
(Schmeer, 2000, p. 2-2)

PM4NGO's (2020) stakeholder identification and analysis template (pp. 54 – 57) was utilized to identify each stakeholder's level of influence on climate-affected migration policy and frameworks. The categories were restricted to:

- Users – those who will directly utilize the policy
- Governance – organizations that provide oversight and execution of the policy
- Providers – organizations and institutions that execute the policy directly with users
- Influencers – organizations and institutions which guide the direction of the policy
- Dependents – not applicable
- Sustainers – organizations and institutions that support the maintenance and continuation of the policy

It is important to note that any stakeholder can exist in multiple categories based on their level of influence (PM4NGO's, 2020, p. 55). Following the categorization of stakeholders, stakeholders were then mapped utilizing Bronfenbrenner's eco map to reveal various levels of stakeholders ranging from international organizations to Canadian federal organizations. This led to completing a stakeholder analysis matrix to expose the power and interest rating, seen in Figure 6, which leads to "...a grouping of stakeholders according to their level of authority (power), level of concern about the [policy's] outcomes (interest), ability to influence the outcomes of the [policy] (influence), or ability to cause changes to the [policy's] planning or execution" (Project Management Institute [PMI], 2017, p. 512).

Figure 6
Power/interest grid



Description of Findings

International Stakeholder Analysis

International stakeholders are involved in research, design, development, implementation, and oversight of climate-affected migration policies and frameworks. Their level of influence is high internationally, and specifically in Canada due to Canada's commitments to various declarations, compacts and governance agreements. Their stakeholder roles vary based on organization and include influencer, sustainer and funder. Throughout the data collection and analysis, organizations were mapped and analyzed to determine their level of influence and power in climate-affected migration policy. At the macrosystem level are international organizations that have varying levels of influence on Canadian policy development. Included are the United Nations Refugee Agency, the International Organization on Migration, The Center for Global Development, the International Centre for Migration and Policy Development, the International Red Cross, The World Bank, The Organization for Economic Cooperation and development and The V20 Group. This is seen in Figure 7 as the largest circle.

The mesosystem shown in Figure 7 shows countries which Canada has existing immigration agreements with, specifically surrounding economic migration pathways informed by the Global Skills Partnerships Migration Pathways Map (Centre for Global Development, 2024a), the Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada's [IRCC] 2023 Annual Report to Parliament on Immigration, and IRCC documents specific to agreements made between countries (IRCC, 2023b; IRCC, 2023c). It is also inclusive on ongoing collaborative efforts between countries that are taking place to manage irregular migration, including the Five Country Ministerial Counterparts.

Figure 7

Author developed eco-map: global organizations and countries specific to Canadian policy

Global Organizations and Countries Specific to Canadian Policy

This stakeholder map examines macro level influences and partnerships that influence Canada's immigration policies and planning. These existing relationships can be leveraged to explore opportunities to address climate-affected migration through various existing regional agreements and existing Canadian labour policy.

International Stakeholders

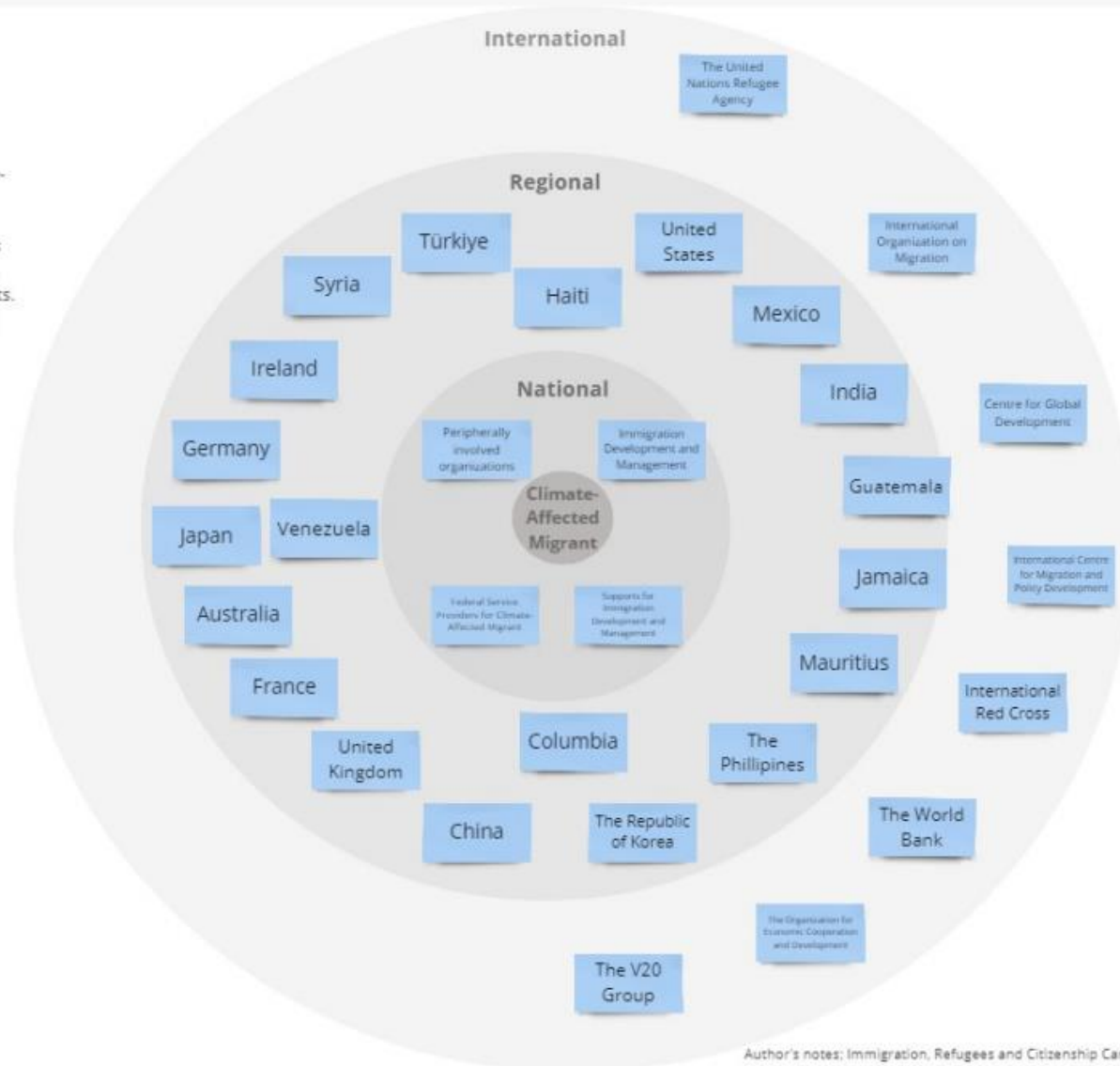
These stakeholders are involved in research, design, development, implementation, and international framework/policy oversight of climate-affected migration. Their level of influence is high internationally, and specifically in Canada due to Canada's commitments to various declarations, compacts and Governance agreements. Their stakeholder roles vary based on organization and include influencer, sustainer and funder.

Regional Stakeholders

The regional stakeholders are those that Canada has agreements with.

National Stakeholders

National stakeholders are specific to Canada and are further broken down in the Canadian context chapter.



The *international stakeholder analysis matrix* seen in figure 8 specifies the specific stakeholder description along with their category, level of power and influence, and the international framework(s) related to climate-affected migration that they oversee.

Figure 8

International stakeholder analysis matrix

Stakeholder Description: Organization	Stakeholder Category	Power and Influence	International Framework(s) related to Climate-Affected Migration	Reference
The United Nations	Influencer, governance (incl funder)	Regularly engage, keep informed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration • The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement • The Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Climate Change (collaborator) • Sustainable Development Goals • The Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage 	UNHCR, 2018, p. 2; Economics, Resources and International Affairs Division, 2020, p. 4
International Organization on Migration	Influencer	Regularly engage, keep informed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Climate 	Blake, et al., 2021, p. 23; Ammer, et al., 2022, p. 32

			Change (collaborator)	
Center for Global Development	Influencer	Maintain interest	• Not applicable	Center for Global Development, 2024a, para. 1
International Centre for Migration and Policy Development	Influencer	Maintain interest, keep informed	• Not applicable	International Centre for Migration Policy Development; n.d., para. 2
International Federation of Red Cross	Influencer	Keep informed	• The Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Climate Change (collaborator)	International Federation of Red Cross, 2024, para. 6
The World Bank	Influencer, governance (funder)	Regularly engage, maintain interest	• Climate Investment Funds	The World Bank, 2004, p. xvii
The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development	Influencer	Regularly engage, maintain interest	• Not Applicable	Environment and Climate Change Canada, 2007, para. 1
The V20 Group	Influencer, governance (funder)	Regularly engage, maintain interest	• Not Applicable	Scherer & Tänzler, 2018, para's. 1-2

The *stakeholder matrix* shows that while all listed organizations wield considerable influence over climate-affected migration policy, they possess limited power to shape national policy design or reform beyond the specific frameworks established to guide governments in addressing this issue. The United Nations has developed various frameworks including the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (1998), the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Climate Change (2015), the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (2013) and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (2018), but these are non-binding and cannot be legally enforced (Kainz & Betts, 2021, p. 80; Traore Chazalnoël & Ionesco, 2022, p. 55). This results in these organizations have a high level of influence but limited governance authority concerning climate-affected migration, indicating a moderate degree of power and influence over country-specific policy processes related to this issue. The IOM and International Federation of Red Cross were collaborators and contributors to the development of the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced

Persons in the Context of Climate Change (International Federation of Red Cross, 2024, para. 6; Blake, et al., 2021, p. 23; Ammer et al., 2022, p. 32), so hold significant influence over the development of climate-affected policy frameworks, but are removed from any governance processes related to the issue. Beyond its contribution to relevant frameworks, the IOM "...has been at the heart of international, regional and national concerns in collaboration with Member States, observers and partners" (IOM, 2024c, para. 1). This would indicate that the IOM also holds a moderate amount of power in influencing the policy process. The Center for Global Development also maintains influence over the discussions taking place related to climate-affected migration due to their 2023 publication of the *Climate Change and Migration: An Omnibus Overview for Policymakers and Development Practitioners*, which consolidates and analyzes policies related to climate-affected migration. This places the Center for Global Development at a lower level of influence and power, but they still remain significant due to their knowledge of the topic.

Stakeholders within the influencer and funder categories such as the World Bank, The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the V20 Group maintain lower levels of influence and power, as they are not involved in policy-processes related to climate-affected migration (The World Bank, 2004, p. xvii; Environment and Climate Change Canada, 2007, para. 1; Scherer & Tänzler, 2018, para's. 1-2).

Analyzing the eco-map alongside the stakeholder matrix has revealed that international bodies only have authority when legally binding frameworks or agreements are in place. This reinforces the finding in the jurisdictional scan that countries themselves have ultimate decision-making authority on whether or not to enact a policy specific to climate-affected migration. Consideration needs to be given to the role of regional agreements and frameworks and how these influence the policy process. This is done in the next section where exploring regional agreements provides insight into existing policy agreements between Canada and other countries, regions and continents that may have a greater level of power to influence policy reform.

Regional Stakeholder Analysis

The *Regional stakeholder analysis matrix* showed in figure 9 was adapted from PM4NGO's (2020) template and includes four categories relevant to this project: stakeholder description which identifies the country which Canada has a regional or bi-lateral agreement with, the stakeholder category as defined above, the level of power and influence the country has in the Canadian policy realm, and the existing regional and bi-lateral frameworks and agreements between Canada and that country specific to migration policy. This matrix is a consolidation of various literature including the 2023 Annual Report to Parliament on Immigration, the Centre for Global Development's Migration Pathways Map (2024a), and documents released by IRCC specific to regional agreements (2023b; 2023c).

Figure 9

Regional stakeholder analysis matrix

Stakeholder Description: Country	Stakeholder Category	Power and Influence	Existing Regional and Bi-Lateral Agreements with Canada	Reference
United States	Influencer, governance,	Keep informed, regularly engage, actively consult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada Temporary Foreign 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image;

	provider, sustainer		<p>Worker Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada International Mobility Program • Five-Country Ministerial Counterparts • Canada United-States Safe Third Country Agreement 	IRCC, 2023a, p. 45; IRCC, 2003, para's. 3-7
Mexico	Influencer, governance, provider, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada Temporary Foreign Worker Program 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image
India	User, influencer, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada Temporary Foreign Worker Program • 2022 Canada-India Consular Dialogue 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image; IRCC, 2023a, p. 47
Guatemala	User, influencer, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada Temporary Foreign Worker Program • Canada/Guatemala Temporary Guest Worker Program 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image; IRCC, 2023a, p. 55
Jamaica	User, influencer, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada Temporary Foreign Worker Program 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image

Mauritius	Influencer, governance, provider, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilateral Agreement on Circular Migration between Canada and Mauritius 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image
The Philippines	User, influencer, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada Temporary Foreign Worker Program 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image
The Republic of Korea	User, influencer, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada Temporary Foreign Worker Program • Canada International Mobility Program 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image
China	User, influencer, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada Temporary Foreign Worker Program • Canada International Mobility Program 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image
United Kingdom	Influencer, governance, provider, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage, actively consult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada Temporary Foreign Worker Program • Canada International Mobility Program • Five-Country Ministerial Counterparts 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image; IRCC, 2023a, p. 45
France	User, influencer, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada Temporary Foreign 	Center for Global

			<p>Worker Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada International Mobility Program 	Development, 2024a, image
Australia	Influencer, governance, provider, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage, actively consult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada International Mobility Program • Five-Country Ministerial Counterparts 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image; IRCC, 2023a, p. 45
Japan	User, influencer, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada International Mobility Program 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image
Germany	User, influencer, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage; actively consult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada International Mobility Program 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image
Ireland	User, influencer, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada International Mobility Program 	Center for Global Development, 2024a, image
New Zealand	Influencer, governance, provider, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage, actively consult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five-Country Ministerial Counterparts 	IRCC, 2023a, p. 45
European Union	Influencer, governance, sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage, actively consult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-level forum on legal pathways to protection 	IRCC, 2023a, p. 47
Syria	User	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary and Permanent Resident Status 	IRCC, 2023b
Türkiye	User	Keep informed, regularly engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary and Permanent Resident Status 	IRCC, 2023b

Haiti	User	Keep informed, regularly engage	• Humanitarian Pathway	IRCC, 2023c
Venezuela	User	Keep informed, regularly engage	• Humanitarian Pathway (2023c)	IRCC, 2023c
Columbia	User	Keep informed, regularly engage	• Humanitarian Pathway (2023c)	IRCC, 2023c

Policy collaboration in Canada extends to vital partnerships within the Global North, notably through initiatives like the Five-Country Ministerial Counterparts. This agreement, involving Canada, the United States, Australia, the United Kingdom, and New Zealand, is dedicated to fortifying and enhancing regular migration pathways to address irregular migration (IRCC, 2023a, p. 45). Additionally, the 2023 Annual Report to Parliament on Immigration by the IRCC underscores Canada's interaction with the European Union, highlighting the EU as a close and aligned partner (p. 47). Moreover, the report emphasizes sustained dialogue, communication, and cooperation with fellow Global North nations like Germany, Ukraine, and the United States (ibid., pp. 47-49). When noting bilateral relationships with countries and regions in the Global South, the 2023 Annual Report to Parliament takes a more paternal tone. For example, when discussing engagement with India the report states: "...to address bilateral issues and support migration co-operation" (ibid., p. 47). This emphasizes the power that Canada holds in relation to countries in the Global South in collaborating and implementing policies or opportunities for migration. This is seen specifically with humanitarian and compassionate visa agreements, as Canada holds ultimate authority on which countries they designate, how many admissions are made, and what criteria is to be met (Omeziri & Gore, 2014, p. 50).

Ultimately the stakeholder analysis reveals that international and regional frameworks and agreements have a certain level of influence on Canadian immigration policy; however, the ultimate power resides within countries to address climate-affected migration in their policies. At the international level, frameworks influence policy decisions and directions, but the lack of a formal international legal framework related to climate-affected migration ensures that responsibility lies within each country. This reinforces the finding of ultimate power residing within countries, with the majority of regional and bi-lateral collaboration occurring between countries with shared values, goals, and beliefs, as evidenced by the Five-Ministerial Counterparts.

Conclusion

This chapter builds upon the international and regional jurisdictional scan in Chapter Four (p. 39) to reveal the level of power and influence key stakeholders have on climate-affected migration policies in Canada. The findings of this chapter include: countries predominantly control the policies they implement, international bodies exercise authority only when supported by legal frameworks, and there is a significant disparity in power and influence between the Global North and Global South. The implications of these findings reveal that the Canadian federal government holds ultimate authority on policy reform and decision making when it falls outside of the scope of international law or binding regional agreements. In light of these findings examining the Canadian context is essential, as it will help to better understand the current state when considering non-binding frameworks and their feasibility in Canadian immigration policy. The upcoming chapter will provide a detailed jurisdictional scan of Canada,

focusing on the federal departments responsible for developing, managing, and enforcing immigration policy. In Canada, the authority to set immigration levels rests with institutions that assess and address demographic and labor needs. This upcoming analysis will delve into how these needs shape immigration policy, providing a comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing Canada's approach to climate-affected migration, and situating the role of international and regional stakeholders and their respective frameworks in the policy-making process.

DRAFT

Chapter 6: Canada Specific Jurisdictional Scan Findings

Introduction

The two preceding findings chapters concentrated on international and regional organizations and frameworks to assess their role and feasibility in shaping Canadian climate-affected migration policy, as well as to examine existing climate-affected migration policies that may be relevant in the Canadian context. What was discovered is that limited examples of successful international climate-affected migration policy exist, and policy recommendations focus on adapting existing policies to be inclusive of climate-affected migrants. These recommendations are rooted in, and guided by, international frameworks. As a result, this chapter focuses specifically on federal immigration policies and governance. The chapter first outlines the international agreements and frameworks that Canada is a signatory so the foundation is set for outlining the current Canadian context. This is followed by an overview of Canada's immigration history to show the development of Canada's policies that are internationally recognized, which often followed the implementation of international legally binding agreements into Canadian policy responses. The governance structure of the current Canadian immigration levels plan and its management is then explored revealing the levels of influence and power when determining policy direction and action. The 2024-2026 Immigration Levels Plan (Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada [IRCC], 2023a) is examined followed by current policy areas that may be relevant for climate-affected migrations. Finally, a current state analysis is completed to expose discussions taking place specific to Canada's immigration policies and the limitations of them in relation to climate-affected migration.

Description of Findings

Canada and International Frameworks

Currently Canada does not have any specific policies targeted to address international slow-onset climate-affected migration; however, it is important to understand Canada's commitments to various international agreements and frameworks that may inform future policy direction for the phenomenon. Canada is a signatory to various international frameworks and laws that would inevitably need to be considered in any policy reform. The most relevant are discussed in Figure 10 through an analysis of *international frameworks in the Canadian context*.

Figure 10

International frameworks in the Canadian context

International Framework	What it achieves	Relevancy to climate-affected migration
The Paris Agreement (2015)	Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions to address climate change (Environment and Climate Change Canada, 2015, para's. (1-15)	Displays Canada's legally binding commitment to climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts in addition to financial contributions to countries in the Global South (ibid.).
The United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (2015)	A 15-year strategy to address global issues related to poverty, employment, education, health, gender quality, and environmental	Canada adopted this framework in 2015 (ibid.). Included is target 10.7, which specifically addresses safe, orderly, and responsible

	degradation (Global Affairs Canada, 2017, para. 1)	migration in addition to targets related specifically to managing climate change.
The Cancun Agreement (2010)	Focuses specifically on managing climate change and increases in global temperatures through the reduction of emissions (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, n.d., para. 1)	Displays Canada’s legally binding commitment to climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts
United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (1951)	A legally binding framework that enforces nations to provide asylum to individuals who have experienced infringement on their basic human rights and freedoms (United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, 1951, para’s. 1-7)	The connection between human rights, for example, the dignity to life, is a point of contention when related to climate-affected migration. This convention is essential in Canadian immigration policy as it provides the foundation to who is defined as a protected person under Canadian policy.
Universal Declaration of Human Rights	A legally binding agreement that ensures human rights principles are being achieved.	There are 7 human rights treaties which Canada is a signatory to (Canadian Heritage, 2017, para. 1). The ones most relevant to this project are listed below.
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights [ICESCR]	Part of the declaration of human rights, this agreement stipulates “...the idea of free human beings enjoying freedom from fear and want can only be achieved if conditions are created whereby everyone may enjoy [their] economic, social and cultural rights, as well as [their] civil and political rights” (United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, 1966, para. 4)	“...Canada accepts the obligation to domestically implement the provisions of the treaty. The ICESCR is built on the principle of “progressive realization”, meaning that states are obligated to take appropriate measures to respect, protect and fulfill their obligations under the ICESCR to the maximum of their available resources” (Canadian Heritage, 2017, para. 8)
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights [ICCPR]	Part of the declaration of human rights and recognizes that “...the ideal of free	Canada committed in 1976

	<p>human beings enjoying civil and political freedom and freedom from fear and want can only be achieved if conditions are created whereby everyone may enjoy his civil and political rights, as well as his economic, social and cultural rights” (United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, 1966, para. 4)</p>	
<p>Convention on the Rights of the Child [CRC]</p>	<p>Part of the declaration of human rights, a legally binding agreement where signatories are accountable to ensuring policies and governance are in place to adhere to human rights principles while also acknowledging the significance of the child in our society (United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, 1989, para. 5)</p>	<p>Canada committed in 1991</p>
<p>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women [CEDAW]</p>	<p>Part of the declaration of human rights, a legally binding agreement where signatories are accountable to ensuring policies and governance are in place to adhere to human rights principles by “...bringing the female half of humanity into the focus of human rights concerns” (United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, 1979, para. 3)</p>	<p>Canada committed in 1981</p>
<p>The UNFCCC Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage Associated with Climate Change Impacts</p>	<p>An international agreement that acknowledges the cost of climate change on low-income countries and seeks to increase knowledge, collaboration and action</p>	<p>Canada just recently committed to \$16 million dollars to the loss and damage fund at COP28 in 2023 (Bakx, 2023, para’s. 1-3). This underscores Canada’s</p>

	including through financial assistance (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 2013, para's. 1-5)	commitment to adaptation and development through financial aid.
United Nations Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement	A guiding document rooted in human rights law that addresses internal displacement while also "...assist[ing] governments in providing for the security and well-being of their displaced populations" (United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 1997, para's. 1-2)	Canada does not utilize this framework currently; however, this document may be essential in climate-affected migration planning in the future.

It is important to note that Canada is a signatory to the 2018 Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, and was named a Champion Country in 2020 (Galloway, 2022, pp. 27-28). Providing a comprehensive overview of the international agreements Canada has committed to reveals the gap in Canadian policy options related to climate-affected migration and the strong emphasis on climate mitigation, development and adaptation strategies. Although an international agreement specifically addressing climate-affected migration is still in its early stages, the integration of human rights principles, climate change strategies, protections for migrant workers, and the development of agreements on safe, orderly, and responsible migration collectively lay the groundwork for future policies on climate-affected migration. Grasping Canada's immigration history, which is grounded in agreements with international law and frameworks, is essential for contextualizing the role of international and regional stakeholders in the development of climate-affected migration policy.

Canada's Immigration History

Understanding Canada's immigration history is critical to reveal the ability of Canadian policy to evolve with the times, often largely influenced by commitments to international frameworks (Global Affairs Canada, 2015, para's. 4-6). A pivotal moment in Canada's immigration history was in 1969 when Canada became a signatory to the United Nation's High Commissioner on Refugees [UNHCR] 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the subsequent Protocol Relating to Refugees (Murray, 2010, p. 93). In fact, prior to becoming a signatory Murray (2010) contends that "Canada's immigration policy formally discriminated against non-white migrants" (p. 93). In 1972 the Canadian federal government admitted and resettled 6,000 Ugandan Asians under the Convention, which Raska (2020) stipulates as the "first time a non-white refugee class was admitted through the 1951 Refugee Convention into Canada" (para. 2). Immigration law continued to adapt in the coming years to move the needle towards a more inclusive political culture, which was heavily influenced by the Singh case in 1985 (Foot, 2006, para. 1). The Singh Case resulted in the Supreme Court of Canada ruling that anyone "physically present in Canada, including foreign asylum seekers...have the right to a full oral hearing of their claims before being either admitted into the country or deported" (ibid., para. 1). This was especially relevant given that the plaintiffs' claims fell under protections guaranteed under the Convention (ibid., para. 2). The outcome of this ruling also resulted in the

establishment of the Immigration and Refugee Board (*ibid.*, para. 10), which plays a large role in the current immigration regime (IRCC, 2023a, p. 9)

In the following years, Canada received praise for its approach to refugee and humanitarian admissions (Mir, et al., 2020, p. 1). Notably, Canada's response to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti led to the approval of 3,600 permanent resident applications, and 3,000 temporary residence permits to (Global Affairs Canada, 2011, para. 6). Additionally, in 2016, Canada admitted 40,000 Syrian Refugees through sponsorship programs (Atak, 2018, p. 467), and has since resettled 250,000 Ukrainian refugees (Tumilty, 2024, para. 1). This is furthered by Canada's role as a Global Champion to the 2018 Global Compact on Refugees and Global Compact on Migration [GCM] where Canada has "...committed to expand options for refugee admission through complementary pathways, in particular economic immigration programs, to provide alternative and additional pathways for skilled refugees to come to Canada in addition to traditional humanitarian resettlement streams" (Mir, et al., 2020, p. 25). These are direct examples of Canada's adherence to international agreements and frameworks including the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the ICCPR, the ICESCR, the CRC, and the CEDAW.

The history of Canada's immigration plans and their commitments under the 2018 GCM need to be considered when analyzing the 2024-2026 Immigration Levels Plan (IRCC, 2023a) to determine the applicability of the plan with Canada's commitments and the likelihood of including pathways for climate-affected migrants. To better understand the Immigration Levels Plan it is critical to understand the federal governance structure that oversees, manages, develops and enforces immigration policy and planning.

Canadian Federal Immigration Governance Structure

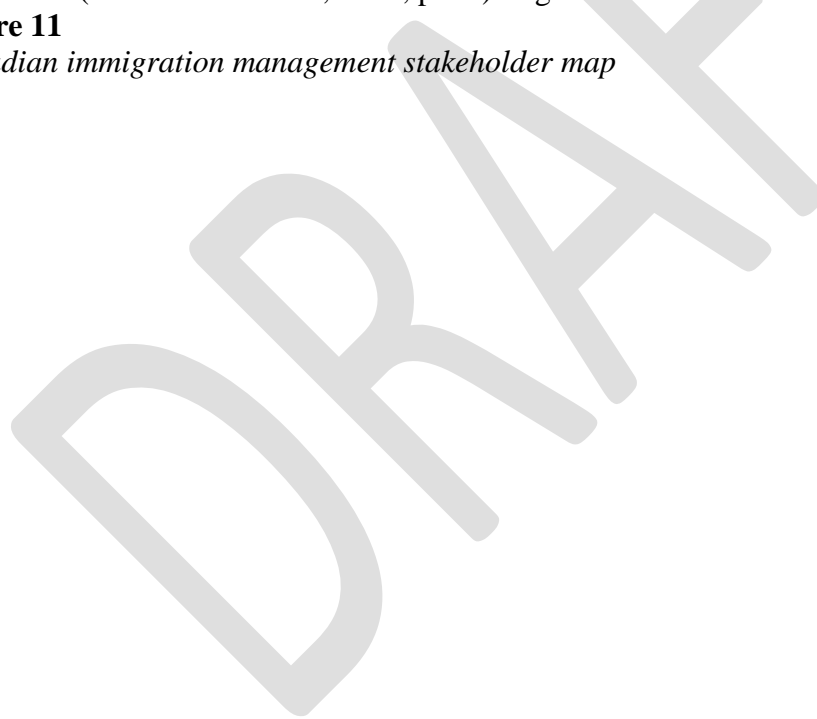
The Canadian immigration management stakeholder map seen in Figure 11 was developed following a close analysis of the 2024-2026 immigration levels plan (IRCC, 2023a, p. 9), which outlined various federal departments involved in the development, management, oversight, implementation and enforcement of immigration policy. Like the International and Regional Stakeholder analysis discussed in Chapter Four (p. 39), the stakeholder map, depicted in Figure 11, is grounded in Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory, revealing the intricate network of relationships (Guy-Evans, 2024, para. 3). Presented as an eco-map, it illustrates the involvement of agencies and departments across various levels, ranging from the microsystem at the core to the macrosystem at the periphery. In this way influence of policy design displays a top-down approach, where the departments located at the macrosystem level influence down to the climate-affected migrant themselves. It focuses on the politically dominated realm of federal policy development, management and implementation as defined by Schmeer (2020, p. 2-2), as this project seeks to examine promising practices in climate-affected migration policy and reform that may be applicable in the Canadian context. As discussed in Chapter Five (p. 47), the politically dominated arena focuses on "...key players who have an investment in proposed reform" (*ibid.*, p. 2-1), whereas the technically led category focuses on actionable items once reform has been decided upon (*ibid.*, pp. 2-1-2-2). The purpose of the analysis is to gain a deeper understanding of which organizations are involved in policy decisions, and to determine how they coordinate and cooperate with one another, while also adhering to international frameworks.

The federal organizations with the largest level of influence located in the macrosystem are the Canada Border Services Agency [CBSA], Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada [IRCC], the Canadian Security and Intelligence Service [CSIS], the Royal Canadian Mounted Police [RCMP], and the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada [IRBC] (IRCC, 2023a, p. 9).

These organizations are those who determine the upcoming immigration levels plan and oversee the management of it (ibid., p. 9). Enforcement of adherence to immigration policies is overseen by the CBSA and IRCC (Settlement.org, 2021, para's. 2-3). Two organizations are heavily involved with supporting the development and management of the immigration levels plan, located in the mesosystem, and include Global Affairs Canada and Shared Services Canada (IRCC, 2023a, p. 9). Implementing and providing direct federal services to immigrants, refugees, and migrant workers is completed by Government of Canada Resettlement Assistance Program, Employment and Social Development Canada, Health Canada and Infrastructure Canada (ibid., p. 9), who are in the microsystem level. Peripherally involved organizations include Environment and Climate Change Canada, the Department of Defense and Canadian Armed Forces, Finance Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Canada Revenue Agency, Public Safety Canada, the Disaster Assistance Response Team and Canada's Humanitarian Assistance Fund, and are indirectly involved in the planning. These organizations remain important stakeholders to acknowledge, as they may have a level of influence on immigration planning and policy development. Not included in the stakeholder map, but relevant to note is that in Canada, each province manages their own provincial settlement service (Roberts, 2019, pp. 980-981), and beyond this each municipality has their own services for settlement and integration (Praznik & Shields, 2018, p. 11). Figure 11 shows a visual of the eco-map.

Figure 11

Canadian immigration management stakeholder map



Canadian Immigration Management Stakeholder Map

This stakeholder map reflects the Stakeholders involved at a Federal level in developing and executing immigration levels planning and policy, down to those involved in providing federal services to (Im)migrants. Provincial and municipal authorities were excluded from this stakeholder map, as this project focuses primarily on federal influences of policy development and implementation.

Development and Management

These are the federal departments in Canada responsible for developing and managing the immigration levels plan.

Supports for Development and Management

Regularly providing input or helping to move work forward, but this project is not their sole focus

Service Providers

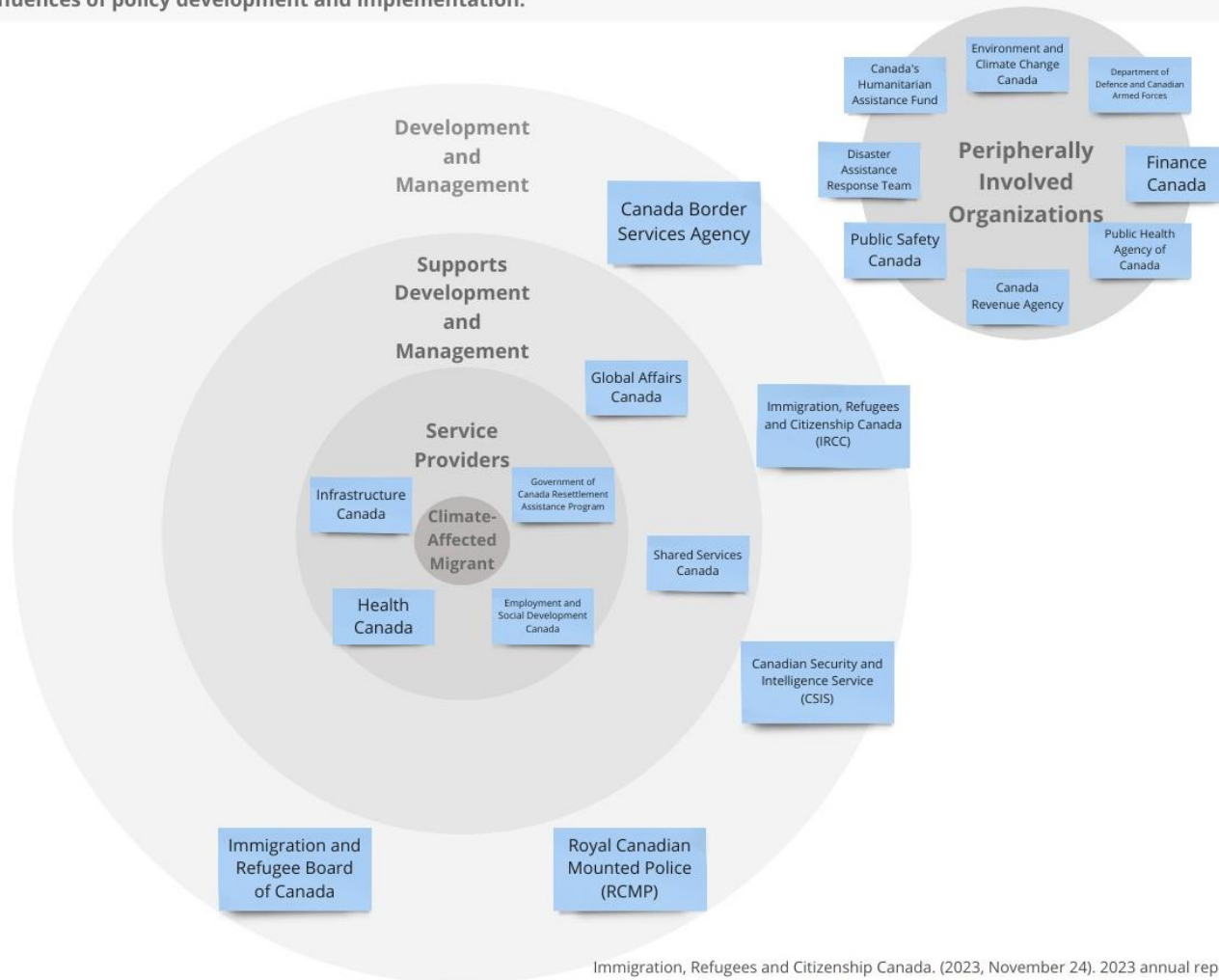
Federal services that provide services to climate-affected migrant based on policies designed and implemented from levels above.

Peripherally Involved Organizations

Wants to stay up to date and will provide feedback/input when necessary, their awareness is necessary.

Climate-Affected Migrant

Most impacted stakeholder



Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. (2023, November 24). 2023 annual report to parliament on immigration. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/annual-report-parliament-immigration-2023.html>

The Canadian stakeholder analysis matrix was adapted from PM4NGO’s (2020) template and includes four categories relevant to this project: stakeholder description which identifies the Canadian organization or institution, the stakeholder category, including users, governance, providers, influencers and sustainers, the interest the stakeholder has in the policy, and the level of power and influence the organization has in the policy realm. The stakeholder categories were adapted from PM4NGO’s (2020) stakeholder category descriptions and include:

- Users – those who will directly utilize the policy
- Governance – organizations that provide oversight and execution of the policy
- Providers – organizations and institutions that execute the policy directly with users
- Influencers – organizations and institutions which guide the direction of the policy
- Sustainers – organizations and institutions that support the maintenance and continuation of the policy

Figure 12
Canadian federal stakeholder analysis matrix

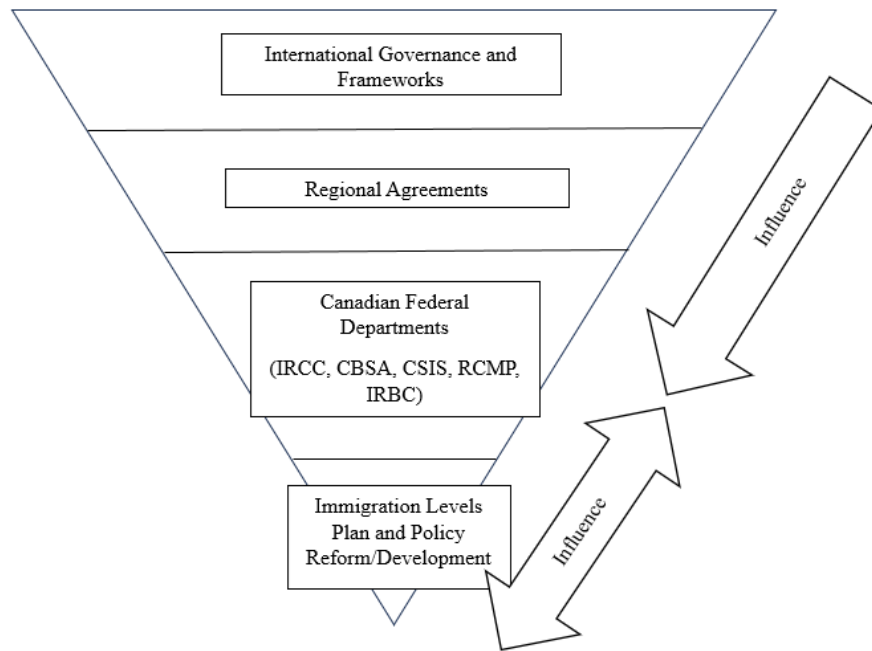
Stakeholder Description – Canadian Organization or Institution	Stakeholder Category	Interest in the Project	Power and Influence
Canada Border Services Agency	Governance, influencer, sustainer	Actively Consult	Development; management; enforcement
Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)	Governance, influencer, sustainer	Actively Consult	Development; management; enforcement
Canadian Security and Intelligence Service (CSIS)	Governance, influencer, sustainer	Actively Consult	Development; management; enforcement
Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)	Governance, influencer, sustainer	Actively Consult	Development; management; enforcement
Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada	Governance, influencer, sustainer	Actively Consult	Development and management
Global Affairs Canada	Sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage, maintain interest	Supports development and management
Shared Services Canada	Sustainer	Keep informed, regularly engage, maintain interest	Supports development and management
Government of Canada Resettlement Assistance Program	Provider	Keep informed	Service provider
Employment and Social Development	Provider	Keep informed	Service provider

Canada			
Health Canada	Provider	Keep informed	Service provider
Infrastructure Canada	Provider	Keep informed	Service provider
Environment and Climate Change Canada	Influencer	Maintain interest, keep informed	Peripherally involved organization
Department of Defense and Canadian Armed Forces	Influencer	Maintain interest, keep informed	Peripherally involved organization
Finance Canada	Sustainer	Maintain interest, keep informed	Peripherally involved organization
Public Health Agency of Canada	Influencer, governance, provider, sustainer	Maintain interest, keep informed	Peripherally involved organization
Canada Revenue Agency	Influencer, governance, provider, sustainer	Maintain interest, keep informed	Peripherally involved organization
Public Safety Canada	Influencer, governance, provider, sustainer	Maintain interest, keep informed	Peripherally involved organization
Disaster Assistance Response Team	Influencer	Maintain interest, keep informed	Peripherally involved organization
Canada's Humanitarian Assistance Fund	Influencer, governance, provider	Maintain interest, keep informed	Peripherally involved organization

The eco-map in figure 11 and the stakeholder analysis matrix in figure 12 along with the international and regional jurisdictional scan (p. 36) and the related stakeholder analysis (p. 44), clearly illustrate that the direction of influence is limited to upward and downward in relation to policy reform, implementation, and execution. This visually represents "...stakeholders according to their influence on the work [or policy]" (Project Management Institute, PMBOK, 2017, p. 513). Figure 13 shows the *directions of influence for policy* based on stakeholder level and reveals that international governance and frameworks trickle down to influence regional agreements and Canadian immigration policies, as also seen in the adaptation of policies discussed in Chapter Four (p. 39). The Canadian federal government then influences the immigration levels plan while considering key policies to support and achieve the plan while adhering to international agreements. Findings Chapter's Four (p. 39) and Five (p. 48) revealed the lack of policy options that exist which can be applied in the Canadian context, and reinforced the need to examine adapting existing policy options to address climate-affected migration. The respective stakeholder analysis' have revealed the role of international frameworks on influencing policy decisions and guiding the immigration levels plan. Having a clear understanding of the existing policy areas that may intersect with climate-affected migration is critical to consider their feasibility for this population.

Figure 13

Directions of influence for policy



Existing Policy Areas in Canada

The federal legislation governing migration to Canada is the Canadian Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (S.C. 2001, c27) [IRPA]. This section reveals findings specific to humanitarian and compassionate visa feasibility and economic pathways governed under IRPA for climate-affected migration.

Section 25 of IRPA is the Humanitarian and Compassionate Grounds for Permanent Residency (S.C. 2001). Typically, consideration to gain admission via this category is based on how factors in the place of origin impact the applicant "...such as war, natural disasters, unfair treatment of minorities, political instability, lack of employment, widespread violence etc." (IRCC, 2014, para. 23). Galloway (2022) has argued that "environmental conditions in an individual's country of origin are not regularly considered [under humanitarian and compassionate visas in Canada]" (p. 32), but are only often considered when an operational bulletin is issued by the minister of IRCC (Emond Montgomery Publications, 2018, p. 43) in specific situations. In 2008, Operational Bulletin 083 [OB083] Guidelines for Priority Processing in the Event of Disaster Situations was released to reconcile this issue (Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, 2008; Omeziri & Gore, 2014, p. 48). However, Omeziri & Gore (2014) argue that the OB083 provision is ad-hoc and is not applied to all disasters (p. 48) and go on to provide examples of environmental disasters in Somalia and Pakistan where expedited visas were not made available (ibid., p. 50). The ad-hoc nature of OB083 is further discussed as being problematic given the lack of direction given to immigration officers who subjectively evaluate the eligibility of a visa application (ibid., p. 48). Regardless of the ad-hoc nature of humanitarian and compassionate visas or if Canada designates a country to receive expedited visas due to an environmental disaster, this category does not consider slow-onset climate-affected migration.

Economic and labour mobility falls underneath the IRPA as well, and includes the temporary foreign worker program, the international mobility program, the express entry program, the seasonal agricultural workers program, the home childcare provider pilot and home support worker pilot (Centre for Global Development, 2024). Specific bi-lateral and regional agreements such as the Canada/Guatemala Temporary Guest Worker Program, the Bilateral Agreement on Circular Migration between Canada and Mauritius and the Canada Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot exist underneath these mobility pathways (ibid.). Further provincial-driven immigration needs focused on labour shortages and economic need are implemented through place-based immigration initiatives with a secondary benefit of immigrants settling outside of highly populated urban centres (IRCC, 2023e, p. 4). These include the Atlantic Immigration Program and the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (ibid., p. 4). Place-based immigration initiatives are "...Canada's second-largest source of economic migrants and accounts for nearly one-fifth of the country's total immigration each year...from 2010 to 2015, the [Provincial Nominee Program] admitted a quarter of a million immigrants to Canada" (Ozimek, et al., 2019, p. 36). Given that Canada has no existing policy for international climate-affected migration, the limitations of humanitarian and compassionate visas regarding slow-onset climate change, and the increasing options for migration through economic and labour pathways, we can better understand the IRCC's (2023a) 2024-2026 Immigration Levels Plan. The stakeholder analysis highlighted how international frameworks influence Canadian immigration policy, which in turn affects key stakeholder's decisions on immigration levels planning. With this context established, the most recent immigration levels plan is examined to identify where climate-affected migrants might be incorporated in future iterations.

2024-2026 Immigration Levels Plan

The 2024-2026 Immigration Levels plan was prepared by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (2023a), and aims to welcome up to 500,000 new permanent residents each year between 2024-2026 with an emphasis on economic streams to residency, and a lesser focus on family reunification and humanitarian and compassionate visa entries (para. 1). Canada's 2024-2026 Immigration Levels Plan reflects a decrease in admissions of Refugees and Protected persons between the years of 2024-2026, with 2024 reflecting 76,115 admissions under this category and 72,750 admissions both in 2025 and 2026 (ibid., table 1). The admissions for Humanitarian and Compassionate also decrease from 13,750 in 2024 to 8,000 in both 2025 and 2026 (ibid., table 1). The family class is projected to increase by 4,000 admissions after 2024, with economic migrants increasing by 20,000 after 2024 (ibid., table 1). This emphasizes the need to explore various policy adaptation measures given Canada's priorities to increase immigration admissions under economic classes. This is especially important as within the current Immigration Levels Plan there is a significant emphasis on economic admissions with a projected increase from 305,000 admissions in 2024 to 326,000 by 2026. The mention of climate-affected migration is non-existent in Canada's 2024-2026 Immigration Levels plan, which contravenes recommendations made by Traore Chazalnoël & Ionesco (2022) who argue: "...important points raised are the necessity to integrate climate change and migration issues when formulating national law, policies, and strategies" (p. 44). Given Canada's commitment to the immigration levels plan, exploration of existing policy areas including their strengths and limitations is essential when considering the applicability to utilize these pathways for climate-affected migrants.

Canadian Current State Analysis

The Canadian policy options discussed reveal that humanitarian and compassionate visas are only applicable when there is a sudden-onset environmental event when Canada issues an agreement, and economic streams focus primarily on labour shortages in Canada. The 2024-2026

Immigration Levels plan reveals a desire for Canada to decrease its humanitarian and compassionate visa admissions in favour of prioritizing economic migration options (IRCC, 2023a). The lack of focus on humanitarian and visa admissions has been seen over the years with Hussan (2021) noting "Canada accepted 5,075 Humanitarian and Compassionate applications in 2019. In 2020, despite an increase in applications, only 3,735 applications were accepted" (para. 3). It is also acknowledged that "...the Government of Canada makes resettlement decisions with respect to individuals potentially affected by climate change 'on a case-by-case basis'" (Economics, Resources and International Affairs Division [ERIAD], 2020, p. 14) often dictated at the time of an unexpected environmental crisis (Omeziri & Gore, 2014, p. 49). Policy reform has focused on the immigration levels plan centred around increasing economic immigrants, for example, "in June [of 2023] ...the [Canadian] federal government announced a revamped federal express-entry system, complete with shiny new expedited pathways to permanent residency for U.S. H-1B visa holders and immigrants with sought-after expertise in fields like health care, tech and... the trades" (Underwood, 2023, p. 14). Canada's priority to focus on economic pathways to immigration by decreasing the number of humanitarian and compassionate visa admissions over the coming years signifies the challenges associated with introducing policy reform specific to climate-affected migration.

Noted in the literature are also serious concerns around the limitations of Canadian immigration policies including a growing reduction of admissions of asylum seekers (Murray, 2020, p.98), the criminalization of immigration (Atak, 2018, p. 468), and human-rights concerns with migrants living in Canada (Roberts, 2020, p. 980; Hennebry, 2012, p. 9) resulting in the growing designation of sanctuary cities understood to protect the rights of undocumented migrants and migrants who do not have access to rights due to their visa category (Praznik & Shields, 2018, p. 6). These concerns create a significant tension between Canada's commitments and obligations under international agreements and the federal government's immigration levels plan, which is reducing admissions on other visa categories in favour of labour mobility. Canada's focus in immigration levels planning centres around "...respond[ing] to the skills gaps resulting from the changing economy and retiring workers" (Underwood, 2023, p. 15).

Conclusion

This chapter examined pivotal moments in Canadian immigration history which underscored the role of international frameworks and laws in informing Canadian policy. It also illuminated the intricate governance structure overseeing immigration policy, and uncovered key components of the existing immigration levels plan to emphasize the direction of Canadian immigration policy. The findings of this chapter revealed that Canada does not have any current policies to address international climate-affected migration, nor does it have a plan to explore this further. In addition, Canada employs a top-down approach to policymaking and planning, placing significant emphasis on the involvement of immigration enforcement agencies. The final findings revealed that Canada establishes its immigration levels plan based on the country's needs, often focusing on economic growth. This approach affects admission levels across visa categories, resulting in a decrease in all other admission categories to justify an increase in economic pathway admissions. The next chapter provides discussion on all three of the findings chapters to inform policy recommendations and direction for future policy reform.

Chapter 7: Discussion

Introduction

A plethora of evidence has been revealed throughout this project which emphasizes the current reality of climate-affected migration policy. This was shown through the extensive literature review where authors have been contemplating responses to this phenomenon for decades. The findings chapters revealed that extensive international conversations are taking place seeking to address this wicked problem. There is a consensus that coordinated responses for international climate-affected migration are paramount (McAdam, 2011, p. 5) with the acknowledgement that some climate-affected migrants may choose to migrate to countries in the global north due to "...stable democracies that adhere to international asylum conventions and have strong economies" (The White House, 2021a, p. 9). The importance of exploring options to reconcile this wicked problem is important given the increase of climate-related events and the lack of consensus on how to address the issue. As a result, this project was rooted in the central research question: *in climate-affected migrant immigration policy what international promising practices and policies are emerging that could be applicable in the Canadian context?*

Connection of Findings to Research Questions and Objectives

To address the central research question, secondary research questions were explored to determine the feasibility of various international and regional practices within the Canadian context. These secondary research questions included:

- How are other Global North countries responding to climate migrants in their citizenship policies?
- What have international organizations done to address the issue of climate migrants?
- How have international governance and policies informed national policies related to climate migrants?
- What lessons have been learned from other policy responses to climate migrants?
- What have been the policy effects that immigration policy reform related to climate migrants in other countries has had on creating facilitators to social, economic, and/or government infrastructure that supports incoming climate migrants?
- What have been the barriers to social, economic and/or government infrastructure to support climate migrants through immigration policy reform?
- What key stakeholders are involved in respect to climate migration policy reform?

The conceptual framework identified in the literature review provided the scope of the research and fulfilled the commitment to address the central research question through findings related to the questions above. This effectively also achieved completion of the objectives of the study which included:

- Examine existing international policies and promising practices related to the inclusion of climate migrants, including analysis of lessons learned
- Identify if current Canadian immigration policies provide a framework for inclusion for those fleeing climate-related events.
- Provide recommendations on equitable and inclusive policy options for climate migrants.

An overview of the key findings related to Chapter's Four (p. 39), Five (p. 47) and Six (p. 59) will provide insight into the subsequent discussion which seeks to legitimize the findings to result in recommendations and next steps.

Overview of Findings

The findings chapters were separated into three chapters beginning with an international

jurisdictional scan in Chapter Four (p. 39) which revealed the following findings:

- The role of international organizations with respect to climate-affected migration is primarily collaborative with no real ability to enforce the development of policies.
- There is a heavy emphasis on sudden-onset climate events or environmental disaster in policy responses.
- Policy responses are often specific to internal displacement and have been undertaken by countries and regions in the Global South.
- Only one emerging example of climate-affected displacement policy in the United States and it has still not been enacted into law.

The findings from the international and regional stakeholder analysis in Chapter Five (p. 47) are as follows:

- Countries hold the ultimate power on what policies they wish to enact.
- International bodies only have authority when legal frameworks are in place, such as the UN Declaration of Human Rights.
- There is a disparity of power and influence between countries in the Global North and Global South.
- Agreement between stakeholders is oftentimes only rooted if the countries have shared values, goals and beliefs.

Finally, the Canada specific jurisdictional scan and stakeholder analysis in Chapter Six (p. 59) revealed the following key findings:

- Canada does not have any current policies to address international climate affected migration, nor does it have a plan to explore this further.
- Canada employs a top-down approach to policymaking and planning, placing significant emphasis on the involvement of immigration enforcement agencies.
- Canada determines immigration levels based on the need defined by Canada itself, which is often centered around economic growth.
- Canada is decreasing immigration admissions in all other categories except labour mobility.

The findings have significant implications for addressing the central research question of this project, and will be discussed further in the next section to connect the findings to the recommendations made in this project.

Discussion of International and Regional Jurisdictional Scan

Findings

The findings of the international jurisdictional scan (p. 36) are a catalyst in determining the relevance of international frameworks, policies, and guidance on country-specific policies for climate-affected migration. This is affirmed by Stojanov et al. (2021) who state that the "...cross-border movements of people are subject to national and regional migration policies that generally do not conform to climate policy objectives and may be more or less guided by the patchwork of international frameworks that govern migration" (p. 215). This led to the initial finding of this chapter: the role of international organizations with respect to climate-affected migration is primarily collaborative with no real ability to enforce the development of policies. In addition, international frameworks do not account for slow-onset climate events, and are often rooted in sudden-onset climate events or environmental disaster. Direct examples of this are seen in the Platform on Disaster Displacement or the Regional Guidelines Regarding Protection and Assistance for Persons Displaced Across Borders in the Context of Disasters. In addition, policy responses are often specific to internal displacement and have been undertaken by countries and

regions in the Global South. When discussing the initiatives in the Global South to address climate-affected migration an interviewee of this project states:

“I’d probably argue right now that there’s a huge amount of poverty in many of the countries or they’re...considered to be emerging economies or developing economies where they will get a lot more of that vulnerability to climate change.”

National policy specific to climate-affected migration is nascent with the exception of the United States who has proposed the Climate Displaced Persons Act, which still has not been approved (Rep. Velázquez, 2019, para’s. 1-3). Given these findings, further analysis was conducted to understand the lack of appetite in the Global North to implement policies specific to climate-affected migration.

Policy Responses are Nascent

Finding specific examples of national policies related to climate-affected migration was challenging. While some historical examples exist, such as the 2004 Finnish Aliens Act and 2005 Swedish Aliens Act, these policies were strictly related to environmental disaster and were indefinitely suspended in 2016 due to the influx of migration to Europe (Kraler, et al., 2020, pp. 77-78). The primary learning from these acts was the focus on a humanitarian protection category that granted a residence permit due to an environmental disaster (Gromilova, 2016, p. 14). Again, the issue becomes a prevalent focus on environmental disaster and sudden-onset climate events resulting in displacement, as opposed to slow-onset events where individuals may proactively relocate. The only direct example of national policy for climate-affected migration is the groundwork that is underway in the United States to create adequate infrastructure for incoming climate-affected migrants through the assessment of resettlement services and implementation of recommendations in anticipation of the Climate Displaced Persons Act (The White House, 2021, pp. 30-32; Rep. Velázquez, 2019, para’s. 1-3). The impact of the United States proposing a policy for climate-affected migration is insurmountable, as one interviewee of this project states “if one country moves on it to do something then a lot of the counterparties in different countries, and those parts of government, can suddenly move in because...a precedent has been set”. Regardless, it is evident that “at the global level, there seems to be an understanding that there is little appetite for a binding legislative framework for addressing environmental migration or displacement. In fact, Kainz & Betts (2021) state “...receiving states’ preference for informal, non-binding, and state-led processes remained the dominant mode of governing migration” (p. 79). This addresses the secondary research question of: how are other Global North countries responding to climate-affected migration in their citizenship policies? If examples of international climate-affected migration policy do not exist, then understanding the role of international and regional stakeholders in various stages and levels of policy development was essential, as this has implications in the Canadian context.

Discussion of International and Regional Stakeholder Analysis

Findings

The international stakeholder analysis in Chapter Five (p. 47) provided context to better understand how power and influence operates at various levels of climate-affected migration governance. A key finding of the chapter was that with respect to climate-affected migration, international organizations have no legally binding frameworks that hold countries responsible for implementing policy. In fact, “...migrants fleeing climate extremes are not currently protected under international law, and there is no consensus on how to legally define them” (Prange, 2022, para’s. 6-7). This signifies that the role of international bodies is restricted to ongoing consultation and collaboration rather than enforcement of an international legal protocol. They do have the

power to influence international guidelines and frameworks that have the ability to inform policy, thereby effectively putting pressure on governments to address the obvious need for migration options for climate-affected migrants. This is seen through frameworks such as the Global Compact on Migration [GCM] and the Task Force on Displacement [TFD], which both acknowledge that climate is a factor in one's choice to migrate (ibid., para's. 6-7). Farbotko (2021) argues "...current international frameworks may still be insufficient to assist those in highly vulnerable environments to proactively move internationally before climate impacts become life-threatening" (p. 9). Traore Chazalnoël & Ionesco (2022) contend that the TFD and GCM are non-binding and are "...a matter of political will rather than obligation" (p. 55). This reinforces that with respect to climate-affected migration international bodies hold little to no power but have a moderate level of influence. In the absence of an internationally binding agreement on immigration policy for climate-affected migration, countries hold ultimate authority over immigration policy decisions including engagement in regional frameworks specific to climate-affected migration. Although international guidance and recommendations, along with promising practices from existing regional guidelines and frameworks, may shape policy reform or implementation, countries often select only what aligns with the specific context, if they adopt anything at all. This is underscored by a research participant of this project who argues "the UN, the World Bank, etcetera, are a part of this...wider ecosystem so they can do a lot of the thinking and a lot of the data and analysis for why these [policies] need to happen because ultimately this is all hyper-personal to every jurisdiction". This leads to the consideration of the level of agreement between stakeholders at various levels.

Degree of Stakeholder Agreement

Stakeholders at various levels do interact with one another dependent on the level of investment displayed by a specific country in establishing a policy for climate-affected migration. This is evidenced by frameworks and policies emerging in the Global South surrounding internal displacement. For example, at times countries, such as Canada, may be required to interact with international or regional organizations based on if they are accountable to a declaration or framework that they have become a signatory for. For example: if concerns regarding human rights violations were to arise, due to Canada's commitment to legal obligations after becoming a signatory to the UN Declaration of Human Rights in 1969, they would be held accountable under international law. Due to the lack of an international legally binding law on climate-affected migration, engagement with international and regional bodies is driven by the countries themselves, which would increase the level of agreement. When agreement is seen between stakeholders, it is typically due to established partnerships rooted in shared values, beliefs and goals, such as Canada's vital partnership through the Five-Country Ministerial Counterparts, which is an initiative of five countries of the Global North to collaborate and share ideas on establishing regular migration pathways (Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada [IRCC], 2023a, p. 45). Conflict with stakeholders emerges in primarily bi-lateral relationships where one country, in this case, Canada, may hold a disproportionate amount of power in comparison to the other country, most often those in the Global South. This is directly seen with the paternalistic tone taken in the Immigration Levels Plan, or with the guidelines around humanitarian and compassionate visas where Canada decides which communities are eligible and under what circumstances. An interviewee acknowledges this as well through the statement "there's also something between the *type* of jurisdictions you are dealing with...it is a wealth issue". Since there can often be a lack of consensus between stakeholders, and the limited level of power international and regional bodies hold, understanding their level of influence on policy processes is critical.

How Stakeholder Influence Policy

As stated, international organizations influence the emergence of climate-affected migration consideration in policy making and reform but hold little authority for policies to be enacted. Even though their authority remains low they remain the largest influence to initiating and facilitating discussions related to climate-affected migration. A country's commitments under international agreements significantly influence its level of engagement with international organizations. Signing a framework often entails ongoing obligations that nations work toward and may be held accountable for. This addressed the secondary research question: what have international organizations done to address the issue of climate migrants?

Countries in the Global South that are currently affected by climate change and environmental events have engaged in consultative processes to implement international guidelines, such as Kiribati's Migration with Dignity Policy. This policy, rooted in the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change, emphasizes "...providing relevant education and training that would ensure that when Kiribati people locate, they do so with dignity – as citizens who are skilled and would find jobs (McAdam, 2016, p. 1544). Regional stakeholders hold a moderate amount of influence over the policy process, most notably through bilateral agreements that are legally enforced. Ultimately, the host country has the final say over the number of admissions and the qualification requirements migrants must meet to be able to access that immigration category. Since the stakeholder analysis has revealed that countries hold the ultimate power on what policies they wish to enact, understanding the Canadian context was essential.

Discussion of Canada Specific Jurisdictional Scan

Findings

Currently Canada does not have any policies to address international climate-affected migration. In fact, "as discussions in the wake of the first High-Level Dialogue [on Migration and Development] show, some powerful receiving states, like Canada...remained reluctant towards engaging on migration issues in a multilateral setting" (Kainz & Betts, 2021, p. 76) despite Canada's agreement in 2020 to be a Champion Country for the 2018 Global Compact on Migration (Galloway, 2022, pp. 27-28). This is contradictory as the GCM is rooted in the assumption that countries will collaborate with one another (McLeman, 2020, p. 9; Kraler, et al., 2020, p. 56). Collaboration between Canada and other countries with relation to migration policy agreements is rooted in demographic deficits faced in Canada and the country's heavy focus on economic prosperity (Underwood, 2023, p. 15). This is not new to Canada and is affirmed by Omeziri & Gore (2014) who contend "Canadian immigration policy has [historically] prioritized international migration that best contributes to the country's economic growth...Canada's tendency to relax admission requirements and allow large influxes of migrants usually occurs in conjunction with some form of economic imperative" (p. 47). The 2024-2026 Immigration Levels Plan, discussed in depth in the Canada Specific Findings chapter (p. 59), reveals a decrease in admissions to other immigration categories including humanitarian and compassionate visas and refugee applications while increasing labour admissions. This again reinforces the autonomy of a country in all levels of immigration planning.

Current Canadian Policy Responses and Options

Canada's apparent lack of interest in developing climate-affected migration policies highlights the need to consider increasing flexibility in existing immigration criteria within categories that could address this gap. This includes exploration of humanitarian and compassionate visas and labour mobility pathways. Humanitarian and Compassionate [H&C] Visas

in Canada are an option to explore for climate-affected migration, and have been used historically in sudden-onset climate events and environmental disasters. As identified in the literature review, numerous authors have stressed that this can be a realistic pathway for climate-affected migration (Galloway, 2022, p. 34; Huckstep & Clemens, 2023, p. 276; Meighen, et al., 2021, para's. 7-9; The White House, 2021a, p. 21; The Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers [CARL], 2021, p. 11). While some successful examples of the use of humanitarian and compassionate visas exist, there remains work to be done to modify this visa category, as the barriers to access it are high and do not currently include slow-onset climate events. Humanitarian and compassionate visas are issued based on if the Canadian government designates a country as eligible based on their circumstances (Economics, Resources and International Affairs Division [ERIAD], 2020, p. 14). Even after designation of a country takes place there is a lack of guidance to immigration officials on the criteria that is required for an approval to take place, which effectively leaves the choice up to the discretion of the immigration officer (Omeziri & Gore, 2014, p. 44; Galloway, 2022, p. 31). Given the complexity of the nexus of migration and establishing a criterion for slow-onset climate events, it is challenging to determine how climate-affected migrants could qualify under humanitarian and compassionate visas. CARL (2021) provides guidance on this arguing for three solutions to humanitarian and compassionate visas including reforming current humanitarian and compassionate grounds guidelines (p. 11); adding a public policy class (p. 12); providing temporary residence permits while establishing more long-term pathways (p. 13); revision of ministerial instructions related to removal orders; resettlement through sponsorship; and launching a pilot program specific to climate-affected migrants (p. 13). Another option for policy reform is within existing labour pathways

Labour pathways

Individuals who migrate under labour pathways are often seeking to send remittances back to their place of origin due to financial strain on the household (Leal Filho & Nalau, 2018, p. 85). Determining the root cause of this financial strain may reveal if climate was a push factor for the individual accessing the labour pathway. Therefore, labour and economic pathways cannot be ruled out as an existing policy response, even if they do not explicitly identify climate within their admittance eligibility criteria. One research participant states "Canada would probably be looking more at probably bilateral agreements and targeted labour migration towards vulnerable demographics." This aligns with the goals of migrants as most migrants cite that the strongest driving force in their choice to migrate is employment (ibid., p. 85). While "...a livelihood-focused climate mobility policy is important" (Blake, Clark-Ginsberg & Balagna, 2021, p. 24) it is essential that these policies are rooted in equity, as "... labor mobility schemes can actually serve to exacerbate inequity and enhance vulnerability in the context of disasters...wealthier and better connected households are often more able to exploit migration opportunities, widening economic gaps and power relations, thereby increasing the vulnerability of those most at risk" (Cundill et al., 2021). If done well, labour mobility schemes have the ability to enhance development and adaptation efforts in the places of origin (Dyer & Neef, 2023, p. 8; Gemenne, et al., 2016, p. 104; Draper, 2022, p. 1018). Shah (2020) underscores that over \$500 billion is sent in remittances annually to home countries, which "...steadily redistributes wealth across borders" (p. 266) and assists in "...development initiatives in their countries of origin" (Vieira, 2018, pp. 305-306). Discussions in the literature favoured the adaptation of labour pathways to provide opportunities for adaptation, mitigation and migration efforts (Draper, 2022, p. 1012; Huckstep & Clemens, 202, p. 283; Glahn, 2009, p. 50). One research participant argues that labour pathways result in "adaptive migration to earn more money to send home". This addressed the secondary research

question of: what have been the policy effects that immigration policy reform related to climate migrants in other countries has had on creating facilitators to social, economic, and/or government infrastructure that supports incoming climate migrants? The findings chapters have revealed implications for policy related to climate-affected migration, which will be discussed in the next section.

Implications of Findings for Policy Direction

The findings of this project have revealed that although international bodies have a high level of influence on establishing frameworks that countries can adopt to address climate-affected migration, they hold little power over implementation. What is known is that climate-affected migration is happening, and is estimated to increase in the years leading up to 2050 (McLeman, 2020, p. 2). Current immigration frameworks are not applicable to people migrating due to climate change as affirmed by Omeziri & Gore (2014) who argue "...in the midst of disasters where global support is needed, particularly from countries where immigration has been and is essential to a country like Canada, inconsistent, ad hoc, and temporary policy measures present serious concerns for a unified, global response to catastrophic events" (p. 49). This can be done through the exploration of "... the substantial body of existing sovereign state law and pressuring individual states...to explore a mix of policies aimed at increasing labour migration from at-risk states, incorporating specific asylum legislation for persons in need of protection from environmental disasters and providing protections for people temporarily displaced for environmental reasons" (Glahn, 2009, p. 52). The most important element remains Canada's level of desire to address this issue, and the significance of a whole-of-government approach to climate-affected migration. While there are implications for policy direction, it is important to acknowledge the strengths and limitations of this project that may present challenges on the feasibility of implementation.

Strengths and Limitations

Strengths

The biggest strength of this project is the extent of the literature review conducted given the scope of the project and the number of articles available that discussed climate-affected migration policy. Understanding varying perspectives over the decades alongside international frameworks and discussions was fascinating, and revealed that there is a keen awareness of this pressing issue. The variety of perspectives was essential as it was evident how the discussion evolved over time, which was emphasized in the literature review where emergent themes were either reconciled or remain in conflict.

Limitations

The most significant limitation of this project was the low number of interviewees who contributed to this project. The sample size was quite small despite contacting over fifty organizations to invite them to participate. Oftentimes the responses declining participation reflected that there was a lack of ability to contribute to the discussion of climate-affected migration as it was not an area of focus for many organizations. This shows that although international discussions are taking place, there is a significant lack of focus in numerous countries and newcomer agencies around this issue. Most responded acknowledging the importance and relevance of the issue. Reconciling this limitation took the form of increasing the scope and breadth of the literature review to include organizational documents, media reports, and further academic commentary on other immigration issues in Canada. The three interviews conducted were rich in information and came from diverse organizations including the Centre for Global Development, the United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority, and the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre. These varied perspectives greatly assisted in the thematic organization of the findings. Despite the

differences among organizations, there was a notable consensus on the policy options discussed.

A second limitation of this research project was the complexity of the issue and the fact that this is a wicked problem. This made the scope of the project extremely challenging to manage. It also affected the exploration of the secondary research question, which had to be reduced due to the project's ambitious nature. As a result, there was insufficient time to adequately address every discussion presented in the literature. The conceptual framework greatly assisted in containing the research, as it brought the focus back to the three policy options emphasized in academic discussions.

Revisiting the conceptual framework

The conceptual framework developed after the literature review highlighted several key themes related to climate-affected migration. These themes include defining climate-affected migration and migrants, differentiating between climate-affected migrants and refugees, fulfilling human rights obligations in migration policy, and the necessity of proactive preparation through adequate policy. Together, these factors determine whether a policy qualifies as a promising practice. This framework ultimately led to the exploration of various policies discussed in the research, including modifications to humanitarian and compassionate visas, the creation of a new policy for climate-affected migration, and the adaptation of temporary labour schemes. This separation was critical as one research participant states “you have to separate between the markers of [a] policy being successful and a policy that's then successfully implemented”.

The international and regional jurisdictional scan sought to examine policies for climate-affected migrants which fit the criteria discussed above; however, a major finding involved the absence of consideration of slow-onset climate events at all levels examined, with the exception of the proposed Climate Displaced Person's Act in the United States and the 2007-2012 Temporary and Circular Migration [TLCM] Project between Spain and Columbia which was aimed towards labour mobility for those impacted by environmental changes (p. 1). These became the two more relevant options that fit within the goals laid out by the conceptual framework. Modifications to humanitarian and compassionate visas to encompass slow-onset events are non-existent. Although this aspect could not be explored due to the lack of an existing template to apply to the Canadian context, it underscores the necessity to expand the criteria to include slow-onset events alongside sudden-onset events and environmental disasters. How the themes are addressed impacts the scope of policy direction; however, numerous authors have advocated the importance of multiple policy options given the complexity of climate-affected migration (Gromilova, 2016, p. 139; Traore Chazalnoël & Ionesco, 2022, p. 56; Galloway, 2016, p. 34). This underscored the importance of examining practices at all levels to determine their feasibility and their applicability to all aspects of climate-affected migration. The conceptual framework continuously guided the scope of the research which underscore the areas for future research, which will be discussed next.

Future Research

There are many avenues for future research, as this project only explored the viability of three potential policy responses to climate-affected migration. Areas for future research could include:

- Exploration of the lessons learned with internal displacement frameworks and their applicability to be applied to international climate-affected migration.
- Exploration of eligibility and qualification criteria to determine who would be eligible under a slow-onset event.

- How to comprehensively apply all of the international frameworks related to climate-affected migration in a new policy specific to the population alongside implementation strategies.
- Canada's amenability towards expanding current immigration policy to account for climate-affected migrants including implementing an equitable process so trapped populations have the choice to migrate.
- What contributed to the successes of some humanitarian and compassionate visa responses such as the response to Turkish and Syrian temporary residents following the earthquake in 2023 (IRCC, 2023, March 18) or the response to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti (IRCC, 2008, para. 3) that could establish a concrete policy option for climate-affected migration.

Next Steps

Next steps to further this research on this topic could include an examination of what contributed to the successes of some Humanitarian and Compassionate Visa responses such as the response to Turkish and Syrian temporary residents following the earthquake in 2023 (IRCC, 2023b) or the response to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti (IRCC, 2008) that could establish a concrete policy option for climate-affected migration that extends beyond environmental disaster or a sudden-onset climate event. In addition, exploring circular labour mobility schemes, such as the 2007-2012 TLCM Model between Columbia and Spain which focused on labour mobility options rooted in environmental vulnerability (Centre for Global Development, 2021, para. 1) would provide a framework to follow to begin adjusting labour and mobility pathways to include climate-affected migration. Finally, following the progress of the United States Climate Displaced Persons Act (Rep. Velázquez, 2019, para's. 1-3) may provide insight into the process of developing a new policy specific to climate-affected migration.

Conclusion

The findings of this project were driven by the central research question: *in climate-affected migrant immigration policy what international promising practices and policies are emerging that could be applicable in the Canadian context?*. The discussion reviewed the findings and the implications for policy, followed by an acknowledgement of the strengths and limitations of this study. Areas for further research were identified given the large scope of the issue of cross-border climate-affected migration, and next-steps were established. What is evident is that there is a significant need for providing policy options for climate-affected migration in Canada. The next chapter focuses on options to consider, recommendations and an implementation strategy to reconcile this issue.

Chapter 8: Options to Consider and Recommendations

Introduction

This chapter builds on the findings outlined in the previous section, transitioning from analysis to actionable strategies. The evidence underscores the urgent need for diverse policy options to address the needs of climate-affected migrants, highlighting the complex interplay between climate change and migration decisions (Blake, Clark-Ginsberg & Balagna, 2021, p. 24). Given this complexity, the recommendations advocate for reforming existing immigration pathways to better support vulnerable populations impacted by climate change.

Options to Consider

The chapter proposes three key policy options, derived from the literature review and discussions, to guide future action:

1. Modifying humanitarian and compassionate visas.
2. Adapting temporary labor schemes to account for climate-driven migration.
3. Creating a new, dedicated policy for climate-affected migration.

While the first two options are supported by the findings, further research is needed for the third due to challenges in defining and isolating climate-affected migration. These options address the complexities identified in the findings and provide a roadmap for effective policy development, and are addressed in the subsequent recommendations.

Recommendations

1. Collaborate with entities like the International Organization for Migration [IOM] and the Centre for Global Development to integrate climate migration frameworks into Canadian policy.

International organizations have developed frameworks to support safe migration pathways, such as the Global Compact on Migration and the recommendations from the Task Force on Displacement. Adopting these frameworks can enhance Canada's policy responses and ensure alignment with international standards (McLeman, 2019, p. 913; O'Connor, Bruch & Maekawa, 2019, p. 1256). To take action, Canada should implement the recommendations from the Global Compact on Migration, particularly focusing on access to basic services and inclusion for climate-affected migrants. For instance, assessing the effectiveness of the United States resettlement services under the recent executive order and adapting relevant practices to Canada's context could provide valuable insights. The potential impact of these actions would significantly improve Canada's ability to respond to climate-affected migration, enhance coordination with international standards, and ensure better supports for migrants.

2. Revise the criteria for Humanitarian and Compassionate visas to include provisions for slow-onset climate events.

Current humanitarian responses to sudden disasters underscore the need for a more consistent approach to slow-onset climate events. Revising visa criteria to include these events will offer essential protection for affected individuals (Huckstep & Clemens, 2023, p. 276; Traore Chazalnoël & Randall, 2022, p. 14). To take action, it is important to analyze successful cases, such as the responses to the Haiti and Turkey/Syria crises, to inform a more stable and consistent approach. Engaging with immigration authorities and policymakers to revise visa guidelines is crucial, as is establishing clear criteria and procedures for evaluating applications based on slow-onset climate impacts. An example of potential modifications can be found in the Finnish and Swedish Aliens Acts, which could serve as a model for relevant policy reforms. The impact of these revisions

would create a legal pathway for individuals displaced by slow-onset climate events, ensuring they receive the necessary support and protection.

3. Review and modify existing labour agreements to ensure vulnerable populations impacted by climate change have equal access.

Current labor pathways inadequately address the needs of climate-affected migrants due to their complex vulnerabilities. Modifying agreements can better incorporate climate migration criteria (O'Connor, Bruch & Maekawa, 2019, p. 1257; Huckstep & Clemens, 2023, p. 29). To take action, Canada should update its labor mobility programs to include climate migration criteria and partner with employers to facilitate the integration of migrants. An effective approach could involve exploring the Temporary and Circular Labour Migration model between Colombia and Spain to identify best practices. By investigating this model from 2007 to 2012, Canada could gain valuable insights. The potential impact of these improvements would enhance labor mobility pathways, creating greater economic opportunities for climate-affected migrants and supporting their successful integration into Canadian society.

4. Ensure integration of climate migration policies across all government levels and sectors, from federal to municipal.

Climate migration policies intersect with various governance areas, including development, adaptation, and social services, making a whole-of-government approach essential for effective policy implementation (McAdam, 2016, p. 1526; Stojanov et al., 2021). To take action, Canada should strengthen coordination efforts and enhance stakeholder engagement in planning and implementation. This could involve establishing a cross-departmental task force to oversee and coordinate climate migration initiatives and developing a national strategy that incorporates input from all relevant stakeholders. This is affirmed by a research participant who states:

“Public statements of support from key government actors, and...consultations [encompass] the whole apparatus of a policy shift...are evidence that the government is really committed [to the policy shift]”.

For example, addressing the low stakeholder participation in the 2023 Immigration Levels Planning survey and creating strategies to improve involvement would be beneficial. The potential impact of this approach would be a unified response to climate-affected migration, leading to improved policy coherence and effectiveness.

Implementation Strategy

The implementation strategy is related to the recommendations listed above and includes tangible actions that can be taken in the short, medium and long term to achieve the recommendations discussed.

Implementation Strategy

- Short-Term (0-6 months):
 - Analyze parliamentary reports on the impact of migration to Canadian immigration categories
 - Initiate collaborations with international organizations on climate migration frameworks.
- Medium-Term (6-18 months):
 - Work with the U.S. on resettlement practices and legislation.
 - Develop and implement new data collection methods to track climate migration factors.
- Long-Term (18+ months):

- Launch public engagement sessions to gather grassroots insights.
- Consider climate-affected migrants in future immigration planning and policy evaluations.

Conclusion

The recommendations are grounded in the options identified during the literature review and guided by the research findings. These options are deemed the most relevant for addressing climate-affected migration in the Canadian context. The implementation strategy provides a clear roadmap for executing these recommendations, offering actionable steps for the short, medium, and long term. By following this strategy, Canada can enhance its response to climate-affected migration, aligning with international standards and improving support for affected populations.

DRAFT

Chapter 9: Conclusion

Review of Project

Predictions of climate-affected migration show that by 2050 there will be mass movements of populations due to climate (McLeman, 2020, p. 2), therefore the emphasis on proactive policy options today is extremely important to manage the flow of people, as well as to ensure that people are able to migrate with dignity. While the challenges in predicting and defining climate-affected migration are a reality it does not change the emergent nature of this issue, nor does it provide a reason for countries to not act (Huckstep & Clemens, 2023, p. 48). This project acknowledges that this issue needs to be reconciled, and sought to explore international and national climate-affected migration immigration policy alongside emerging promising practices to examine their applicability in the Canadian context. This began with an extensive and comprehensive literature review where key policy responses emerged alongside recurrent themes that inform the legitimacy of promising practices. The data was analyzed in Chapter Four (p. 39) through an international and regional jurisdictional scan, In Chapter Five (p. 47) through an international and regional stakeholder analysis, and in Chapter Six (p. 59) in a Canada specific jurisdictional scan. This provided context at the global level for climate-affected migration policy options, and led to key findings which informed the recommendations outlined in this project.

Key Findings

The key findings emerging from the data analysis included that there are no existing policies related to international climate-affected migration that include slow-onset climate change. In addition, there are no legally binding international frameworks, which places the responsibility of enacting policies on countries themselves. This revealed that countries, especially those in the Global North, hold a disproportionate amount of power, as revealed in the stakeholder analysis (p. 44). International organizations hold a high level of influence, but low levels of power to enact policy. Migrants themselves hold little to no power or influence over this process, and the power that they do hold is directly related to one's ability to migrate based on their social reality within the nexus of migration. Findings specific to Canada showed that Canada has no plans to explore or implement policies for climate-affected migration. In fact, it was revealed that current immigration categories, such as labour pathways and humanitarian and compassionate visas, are the most feasible options to incorporate inclusion of this population. These findings resulted in the options to consider and recommendations in this project where areas for potential policy development were revealed that can be adopted by policy makers and explored further in academic circles. Through the findings the gaps identified in the literature review were addressed.

Gaps Addressed

There were numerous gaps identified in the literature review including how to reconcile the issue of climate-affected migration policy if there is no agreement on how to define climate-affected migration. This was addressed through acknowledging the limitations of developing a new policy specific to climate-affected migration, and instead exploring adapting existing policy to be more inclusive of the nexus of migration and more equitable for disenfranchised populations. It was revealed that United States has proposed the Climate Displaced Persons Act (Rep. Velázquez, 2019, para's. 1-3), which may be worth exploring further if it becomes enacted; however, it has currently been tabled, and is unclear if it will pass if a new party is elected in the upcoming 2024 Federal election.

This led to addressing the gaps related to how humanitarian and compassionate visas could be applicable and the role of labour migration schemes in addressing climate-affected migration.

While there are no examples of humanitarian and compassionate visas that include slow-onset climate events, there are significant discussions taking place in the literature around how this could be a feasible response. Included in this is reforming current guidelines, adding a public policy class, and launching a pilot program specific to climate-affected migrants (Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers, 2021, pp. 11-13). In addition, exploring the strengths of successful humanitarian and compassionate visa responses in Canada may provide insight into avenues to permanent modification of criteria. Just relying on adapting the humanitarian and compassionate visa is not adequate and further policy responses need to occur to provide a host of options for people looking to migrate. Labour migration schemes are another widely cited option for addressing climate-affected migration. A successful example of this is the 2007-2012 Temporary and Circular Labour Migration (TCLM) Model between Columbia and Spain which focused specifically on environmental vulnerability. This legitimizes the option of labour pathways as being an option for climate-affected migration.

The final gap was how policy options may fit into Canada's Immigration Levels Plan. Given the emphasis on the diversity of immigration options available to people seeking to migrate, and the commitment Canada has made to 500,000 admissions per year, adapting existing options to be more inclusive and equitable will align with current and future immigration levels plans.

Areas for Further Research

While gaps were identified and addressed, there remains further areas for research. This includes exploring the applicability of frameworks for internal displacement in the context of cross-border climate-affected migration. This would include collecting and organizing definitions for slow-onset climate-affected migration so that eligibility and qualification criteria can be determined. This project also emphasized that the numerous international frameworks that exist provide a pathway for enacting climate-affected migration policy options; however, further research is required to address how this can occur alongside a comprehensive implementation strategy. Specific to Canada, further discussions need to take place to determine Canada's amenability towards expanding current immigration policy to account for climate-affected migrants including implementing an equitable process so trapped populations have the choice to migrate. Finally, a deep-dive into what contributed to the successes of some Humanitarian and Compassionate Visa responses such as the response to Turkish and Syrian temporary residents following the earthquake in 2023 (IRCC, 2023b, March 18) or the response to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti (IRCC, 2008, para. 3) could establish a concrete policy option for climate-affected migration.

Final Comments

Climate-affected migration is happening, and is expected to increase in the coming years (Omeziri & Gore, 2014, p. 44). Current migration pathways are neither suitable nor sustainable for individuals and communities seeking to relocate due to the effects of slow-onset climate change. While over the past decade, sudden-onset climate events and environmental disasters have displaced 23.1 million people annually (Meighen, et al., 2021, para. 2), there is no comprehensive understanding of the number of individuals displaced by slow-onset events. Kraler, et al., (2020) emphasize that "...migration also needs to be seen as part of the solution, and not just as an effect of environmental change" highlighting the necessity of embracing mobility as a key component of responses to adverse environmental changes (p. 87).

This research study examined international and national policies related to climate-affected, along with emerging promising practices to assess their applicability in the Canadian context. The

findings indicate that Canada must take responsibility for enacting policy measures, while international frameworks can offer guidance in this process. Consequently, the study provides recommendations rooted in widely discussed and tangible options that may be applicable in Canada. While there were limited successful examples related to the project topic, avenues for further exploration have been identified.

Ultimately, "... any policy undertaken by the north will depend on the importance that the north places upon the displacement of people, climate change, or inequality" (Marchiori & Schumacher, 2011, p. 598). One research participant emphasized the "need for a cultural shift...in understanding that...displacement is not of the third world only". Another participant raised the concern of whether there will be "a part of the world population that is simply...left behind?" A third participant questioned "does Canada want to accept that migration is something which is potentially useful on a broader scale?" These final comments by all three research participants underscore the reality that climate-affected migration is happening, and that Canada needs to act. As a Champion Country of the Global Compact on Migration, Canada has a unique opportunity to lead in the field of climate-affected migration policy. This project has laid the groundwork and provided recommendations on how this can become a reality.

DRAFT

References

- Ahmed, B. (2018). Who takes responsibility for the climate refugees? *International Journal of Climate Change Strategies and Management*, 10(1), 5–26. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJCCSM-10-2016-0149>
- Ajibade, I., Sullivan, M., & Haeffner, M. (2020). Why climate migration is not managed retreat: Six justifications. *Global Environmental Change*, 65, 102187–102187. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2020.102187>
- Albrecht, E., & Plewa, M. P. (2015). International recognition of environmental refugees. *Environmental Policy and Law*, 45(2), 78–84.
- Ammer, M., Mayrhofer, M., & Scott, M. (2022, April). *Disaster-related displacement into Europe: Judicial practice in Austria and Sweden*. Ludwig Boltzmann Institute/Raoul Wallenberg Institute research report. https://doi.org/10.1163/1570-6664_iyb_SIM_org_39387
- Andeva, M. (2020). Climate refugees or climate migrants: How environment challenges the international migration law and policies. *AICEI Proceedings*, 15(1), 78–87. <https://doi.org/10.5281/ZENODO.4393529>
- Assan, J. K., & Rosenfeld, T. (2012). Environmentally induced migration, vulnerability and human security: Consensus, controversies and conceptual gaps for policy analysis. *Journal of International Development*, 24(8), 1046–1057. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jid.2886>
- Atak, I. (2019). The criminalization of migration in Canada and its unintended policy consequences. In C. Menjivar, M. Ruiz, & I. Ness (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Migration Crises* (pp. 466–484). Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190856908.013.41>
- Bakx, K. (2023, December 1). *Canada commits \$16M to new global climate damage fund*. CBC. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/bakx-cop28-guilbeault-loss-and-damage-1.7045991>
- Bates, D. C. (2002). Environmental refugees? Classifying human migrations caused by environmental change. *Population and Environment*, 23(5), 465–477. <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1015186001919>
- Bates-Eamer, N. (2019). Border and migration controls and migrant precarity in the context of climate change. *Social Sciences*, 8(7), 198. <https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci8070198>
- Betts, A. (2010). Survival migration: A new protection framework. *Global Governance*, 16, 2010(3), 361–382. <https://doi.org/10.1163/19426720-01603006>
- Bharadwaj, R., & Huq, S. (2022). Climate-induced migration and health issues: A toolkit for policymakers. *IIED Working Paper*. <https://www.iied.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/2022-12/21256IIED.pdf>
- Biermann, F., & Boas, I. (2010). Preparing for a warmer world: Towards a global governance system to protect climate refugees. *Global Environmental Politics*, 10(1), 60–88. <https://doi.org/10.1162/glep.2010.10.1.60>
- Black, R. (2001). *Working paper no. 34: Environmental refugees: Myth or reality?* United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. <https://www.unhcr.org/media/environmental-refugees-myth-or-reality-richard-black>
- Blake, J. S., Clark-Ginsberg, A., & Balagna, J. (2021). *Addressing climate migration: A review of national policy approaches*. RAND Corporation. https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/perspectives/PEA1000/PEA1085-1/RAND_PEA1085-1.pdf
- Bronen, R. (2011). Climate-induced community relocations: Creating an adaptive governance framework based in human rights doctrine. *New York University Review of Law and Social Change*, 35(2), 357–407.
- Bronen, R., & Chapin, F. S. (2013). Adaptive governance and institutional strategies for climate-

- induced community relocations in Alaska. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences - PNAS*, 110(23), 9320–9325. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1210508110>
- Canadian Heritage. (2017, October 24). *Canada's appearance at the United Nations committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/canada-united-nations-system/reports-united-nations-treaties/commitments-economic-social-cultural-rights/canada-appearance.html>
- Canadian Heritage. (2017, October 23). *Human rights treaties*. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/canada-united-nations-system/treaties.html>
- Castles, S. (2002). *Environmental change and forced migration: Making sense of the debate*. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. <https://www.unhcr.org/media/environmental-change-and-forced-migration-making-sense-debate-stephen-castles>
- Center for Global Development. (2021). Temporary and circular labour migration (TCLM) model. *Global Skill Partnerships*. <https://gsp.cgdev.org/legalpathway/temporary-and-circular-labour-migration-tclm-model/>
- Center for Global Development. (2024a). *Migration that works for everyone*. [Image]. Global Skill Partnerships. <https://live-globalskill.pantheonsite.io/>
- Center for Global Development. *Who We Are and What We Do*. (2024b). Center For Global Development. <https://www.cgdev.org/media/center-global-development-who-we-are-and-what-we-do>
- Chung, J., Buswala, B., Keith, M., & Schwanen, T. (2022). Climate mobilities into cities: A systematic review of literature from 2011 to 2020. *Urban Climate*, 45, 1–16. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.uclim.2022.101252>
- Cohen, R. (2014). Lessons from the development of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. In *Forced migration review* (Issue 45, pp. 12–13). University of Oxford.
- Cundill, G., Singh, C., Adger, W. N., Safra de Campos, R., Vincent, K., Tebboth, M., & Maharjan, A. (2021). Toward a climate mobilities research agenda: Intersectionality, immobility, and policy responses. *Global Environmental Change*, 69, 102315-. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2021.102315>
- Draper, J. (2022). Labor migration and climate change adaptation. *The American Political Science Review*, 116(3), 1012–1024. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0003055421001313>
- Dyer, C., & Neef, A. (2023). The evolution of Aotearoa New Zealand's policy discourses on Pacific climate mobilities from 2006–2021. *Frontiers in Climate*, 4. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fclim.2022.1000632>
- Economics, Resources and International Affairs Division. (2020). *Climate change: Its impact and policy implications*. Library of parliament of Canada. https://lop.parl.ca/sites/PublicWebsite/default/en_CA/ResearchPublications/201946F#a4
- Einbinder, S. (2010). *Policy analysis*. SAGE Publications, Inc. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781544364902>
- Emond Montgomery Publications. (2018). Decision-makers. In *Part I: The fundamentals of immigration, refugee, and citizenship law*. (pp. 39–62). Emond Montgomery Publications. <https://emond.ca/Emond/media/Sample-chapters/cir14-02.pdf>
- Environment and Climate Change Canada. (2007, January 9). *Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the environment* [Transparency - other]. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/corporate/international-affairs/partnerships-organizations/organisation-economic-cooperation-development-environment.html>
- Environment and Climate Change Canada. (2015, December 31). *Paris Agreement* [Program

- descriptions; international treaties]. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/paris-agreement.html>
- Farbotko, C. (2021, June). *Best practices for addressing the legal and policy challenges of climate mobility*. Unicef and International Organization for Migration. <https://www.unicef.org/globalinsight/media/1836/file/Best%20Practices%20for%20Addressing%20the%20Legal%20and%20Policy%20Challenges%20of%20Climate%20Mobility.pdf>
- Foot, R. (2006). *Singh case*. The Canadian Encyclopedia. <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/singh-case>
- Foot, R. (2006). *Singh case*. The Canadian Encyclopedia. <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/singh-case>
- Fugard, A., & Potts, H. W. (2020). Thematic Analysis. *SAGE Research Methods Foundations*. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781526421036858333>
- Galloway, M. (2022). Teitiota v New Zealand, climate migration and non-refoulement: A case study of Canada's obligations under the charter and the ICCPR. *Dalhousie Law Journal*, 45(2), 385–425. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4239902>
- Gemenne, F., & Brucker, P. (2015). From the guiding principles on internal displacement to the Nansen initiative: What the governance of environmental migration can learn from the governance of internal displacement. *International Journal of Refugee Law*, 27(2), 245–263. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ijrl/eev021>
- Gemenne, F., Mokhnacheva, D., & Ionesco, D. (2016). Governance and policy responses. In *The Atlas of Environmental Migration*. Routledge.
- German Advisory Council on Global Change. (2018). *WBGU policy paper: Just & in-time climate policy: four initiatives for a fair transformation*. German Advisory Council on Global Change. <https://www.wbgu.de/en/publications/publication/just-in-time-climate-policy-four-initiatives-for-a-fair-transformation>
- Ghosh, R. C., & Orchiston, C. (2022). A systematic review of climate migration research: Gaps in existing literature. *SN Social Sciences*, 2(5), 1–22. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43545-022-00341-8>
- Glahn, B. (2009). 'Climate refugees'? Addressing the international legal gaps – Part II (IBN Aug 09). *International Bar News*.
- Global Affairs Canada. (2011, January 11). *Modification—Canada marks anniversary of Haiti earthquake*. GAC. https://www.international.gc.ca/media_commerce/comm/news-communicues/2011/016.aspx?lang=eng
- Global Affairs Canada. (2017, February 21). *The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. GAC. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_developpement-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/agenda-programme.aspx?lang=eng
- Global Affairs Canada. (2015, October 19). *Canada and the United Nations*. GAC. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/index.aspx?lang=eng
- Global Compact for Migration. (2018). *Global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration: Intergovernmentally negotiated and agreed outcome*. Global Compact for Migration. https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/180713_agreed_outcome_global_compact_for_migration.pdf
- Government of Canada: Public Health Agency of Canada. (n.d.). *Category page: promising practices*. <https://cbpp-pcpe.phac-aspc.gc.ca/category/intervention-type/promising-practices/>
- Gromilova, M. (2016). Finding opportunities to combat the climate change migration crisis: The potential of the “adaptation approach.” *Pace Environmental Law Review*, 33(2), 105–156.

- <https://doi.org/10.58948/0738-6206.1787>
- Guy-Evans, O. (2024, January 17). *Bronfenbrenner's ecological systems theory*. <https://www.simplypsychology.org/bronfenbrenner.html>
- Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the African Union. (2009, October 23). *African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention)*. UNHCR. <https://www.unhcr.org/media/african-union-convention-protection-and-assistance-internally-displaced-persons-africa>
- Hennebry, J. (2012). Permanently temporary? Agricultural migrant workers and their integration in Canada. *Institute for Research on Public Policy*, 26, 1–44.
- Hinnawi, E. E. (1985). *Environmental refugees*. United Nations Environmental Programme. <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/121267>
- Huckstep, S., & Clemens, M. (2023). *Climate change and migration: An omnibus overview for policymakers and development practitioners*. Center for Global Development. <https://www.cgdev.org/sites/default/files/climate-change-and-migration-omnibus-overview-policymakers-and-development.pdf>
- Hussan, S. (2021, July 13). *Canada rejected double the number of humanitarian applications for immigration in 2020*. Migrant Rights Network. <https://migrantrights.ca/hc202rejections/>
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. (2023a). *2023 annual report to parliament on immigration*. Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/annual-report-parliament-immigration-2023.html>
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. (2023b, March 18). *Canada announces support for Turkish and Syrian temporary residents* [News releases]. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/2023/03/canada-announces-support-for-turkish-and-syrian-temporary-residents.html>
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. (2008, October 30). *Operational Bulletins 083 – October 30, 2008* [Guidance]. Government of Canada. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/operational-bulletins-manuals/bulletins-2008/083-october-30-2008.html>
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. (2023c). *Statement from Minister Miller on Canada's commitment to support migrants in the Americas* [Statements]. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/2023/10/statement-from-minister-miller-on-canadas-commitment-to-support-migrants-in-the-americas.html>
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. (2023d, November 1). *Notice – supplementary information for the 2024-2026 immigration levels plan*. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/notices/supplementary-immigration-levels-2024-2026.html>
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. (2023e). *2023 settlement outcomes report: Data-driven insights for the future of the settlement program: Part 3: Place-based programming in regional immigration*. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/settlement-resettlement-service-provider-information/2023-settlement-outcomes-report.html>
- Immigration, R. and C. C. (2016, May 27). *ARCHIVE – Notice – Wildfires in Fort McMurray and surrounding areas: Special measures* [Notices]. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/notices/notice-wildfires-fort-mcmurray-surrounding-areas-special-measures.html>
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. (2003, September 16). *Canada-U.S. Safe Third Country Agreement*. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees->

[citizenship/corporate/mandate/policies-operational-instructions-agreements/agreements/safe-third-country-agreement.html](https://www.icmpd.org/about-us/about-icmpd)

International Centre for Migration Policy Development. (n.d.). *About ICMPD - ICMPD*.

<https://www.icmpd.org/about-us/about-icmpd>

International Federation of Red Cross. (2024, June 17). *Migration and displacement | IFRC*.

<https://www.ifrc.org/our-work/disasters-climate-and-crises/migration-and-displacement>

International Organisation for Migration (IOM). (2020a). *The world migration report 2020*.

International Organization for Migration. <https://worldmigrationreport.iom.int/wmr-2020-interactive/>

International Organisation of Migration [IOM]. (2020b). *Internal displacement in the context of slow-onset adverse effects of climate change: Submission by the International Organization for Migration to the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons*. International Organisation of Migration (IOM).

International Organisation of Migration (IOM). (2024a). *The Nansen Initiative | Environmental Migration Portal*. <https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/nansen-initiative>

International Organisation on Migration (IOM). (2024b). *MICIC initiative and guidelines | IOM, UN Migration | Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC)*. <https://micicinitiative.iom.int/micic-initiative-and-guidelines>

International Organization for Migration. (2024c). *Migration, Environment and Climate Change*.

International Organization for Migration. <https://www.iom.int/migration-environment-and-climate-change>

Jacobson, J. L. (1988). Environmental refugees: A yardstick of habitability. *Bulletin of Science, Technology & Society*, 8(3), 257–258. <https://doi.org/10.1177/027046768800800304>

Kaczan, D. J., & Orgill-Meyer, J. (2019). The impact of climate change on migration: A synthesis of recent empirical insights. *Climatic Change*, 158(3–4), 281–300. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10584-019-02560-0>

Kainz, L., & Betts, A. (2021). Power and proliferation: Explaining the fragmentation of global migration governance. *Migration Studies*, 9(1), 65–89. <https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnaa015>

Kanduuli, S. (2020). Canada has a moral obligation to accept climate migrants. *Policy Options*. <https://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/february-2020/canada-has-a-moral-obligation-to-accept-climate-migrants/>

Kilian, A., Nidumolu, A., & Lavis, J. (2016). *Jurisdictional scans in policy making: A critical interpretive synthesis*. <https://ses.library.usyd.edu.au/handle/2123/15695>

Kraler, A., Katsiaficas, C., & Wagner, M. (2020). *Climate change and migration: Legal and policy challenges and responses to environmentally induced migration*.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/343713092_Climate_Change_and_Migration_-_Legal_and_policy_challenges_and_responses_to_environmentally_induced_migration

Leal Filho, W., & Nalau, J. (2018). *Limits to climate change adaptation* (1st ed. 2018.). Springer International Publishing.

Leech, N. L., & Onwuegbuzie, A. J. (2007). An array of qualitative data analysis tools: A call for data analysis triangulation. *School Psychology Quarterly*, 22(4), 557–584. <https://doi.org/10.1037/1045-3830.22.4.557>

Library of Congress. (n.d.). *Summary of H.R. 4732 (116th): To establish a Global Climate Change Resilience Strategy, to authorize the admission of ...*. GovTrack.U.S. Retrieved April 29, 2024, from <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/116/hr4732/summary>

- Marchiori, L., & Schumacher, I. (2011). When nature rebels: International migration, climate change, and inequality. *Journal of Population Economics*, 24(2), 569–600. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00148-009-0274-3>
- Mayer, B. (2013a). Constructing “climate migration” as a global governance issue: Essential flaws in the contemporary literature. *McGill International Journal of Sustainable Development Law and Policy*, 9(1), 87–117.
- McAdam, J. (2016). From the Nansen Initiative to the platform on disaster displacement: Shaping international approaches to climate change, disasters and displacement. *University of New South Wales Law Journal*, 39(4), 1518–1546.
- McAdam, J. (2011). Swimming against the tide: Why a climate change displacement treaty is not the answer. *International Journal of Refugee Law*, 23(1), 2–27. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ijrl/eeq045>
- McAdam, J., & Saul, B. (2010). Displacement with dignity: International law and policy responses to climate change migration and security in Bangladesh. *German Yearbook of International Law*, 53, 233–287.
- McGregor, S. L. T. (2018). *Understanding and evaluating research: A critical guide*. SAGE Publications, Inc.
- McLeman, R. (2020). *How will international migration policy and sustainable development affect future climate-related migration?* Migration Policy Institute. https://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/tcm-climate-migration-mcleman_final.pdf
- Meighen, W. S., Boyd, D. R., & Bueno, M. J. (2021, August 26). Canada must develop immigration policy as climate change increases likelihood of mass displacement. *Policy Options*. <https://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/august-2021/canada-must-develop-immigration-policy-as-climate-change-increases-likelihood-of-mass-displacement/>
- Mir, M., Syed, N., & Alemayehu, K. (2020). *Seven decades of refugee protection in Canada: 1950-2020: Commemorating the 70th anniversary of the United Nations general assembly adoption of Statute of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)*. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. <https://www.unhcr.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Seven-Decades-of-Refugee-Protection-In-Canada-14-December-2020.pdf>
- Morales-Giner, P., & Ramos, C. (2022). The migration and climate change nexus. *Contexts (Berkeley, Calif.)*, 21(2), 30–35. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15365042221107659>
- Murray, S. (2010). Environmental migrants and Canada’s refugee policy. *Refuge (Toronto. English Edition)*, 27(1), 89–102.
- Myers, N. (1993). Environmental refugees in a globally warmed world: Estimating the scope of what could well become a prominent international phenomenon. *BioScience*, 43(11), 752–761. <https://doi.org/10.2307/1312319>
- Myers, N. (2002). Environmental refugees: A growing phenomenon of the 21st century. *Philosophical Transactions: Biological Sciences*, 357(1420), 609–613.
- O’Connor, S., Bruch, C., & Maekawa, M. (2019). Legal and practical measures for environmental migrants. *Journal of Disaster Research*, 14(9), 1254–1261. <https://doi.org/10.20965/jdr.2019.p1254>
- Omeziri, E., & Gore, C. (2014). Temporary measures: Canadian refugee policy and environmental migration. *Refuge (Toronto. English Edition)*, 29(2), 43–53. <https://doi.org/10.25071/1920-7336.38166>
- Ozimek, A., Fikri, K., & Lettieri, J. (2019). From managing decline to building the future: Could a

- heartland visa help struggling regions? *Economic Innovation Group*.
<https://www.immigrationresearch.org/node/2697>
- PM4NGOs. (2020). *Project DPro: Project management for development professionals guide* (2 ed.). PM4NGOs.
- Prange, M. (2022, December 19). *Climate change is fueling migration. Do climate migrants have legal protections?* Council on Foreign Relations. <https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/climate-change-fueling-migration-do-climate-migrants-have-legal-protections>
- Praznik, J., & Shields, J. (2018). *An anatomy of settlement services in Canada: A guide*. Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. https://bmrc-irmu.info.yorku.ca/files/2018/07/An-Anatomy-of-Settlement-Services-in-Canada_BMRCIRMU.pdf
- Project Management Institute. (2017). *A guide to the project management body of knowledge: PMBOK Guide* (6th ed.). Project Management Institute.
- Ramsaroop, C. (2023). Pushing climate refugees into migrant worker programs: As climate change displaces millions worldwide, the Canadian government is expanding temporary foreign worker programs and funnelling migrants back onto the front lines of the crisis. *Briarpatch*, 52(4), 14–19.
- Ransan-Cooper, H., Farbotko, C., McNamara, K. E., Thornton, F., & Chevalier, E. (2015). Being(s) framed: The means and ends of framing environmental migrants. *Global Environmental Change*, 35, 106–115. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2015.07.013>
- Raska, J. (2020, October 16). *Canada's oppressed minority policy and the resettlement of Ugandan Asians, 1972-1973* | Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21. Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21. <https://pier21.ca/blog/jan-raska-phd/canada-s-oppressed-minority-policy-and-the-resettlement-of-ugandan-asians-1972>
- Rep. Velázquez, N. M. [D-N.-7. (2019, November 15). *Text - H.R.4732 - 116th Congress (2019-2020): To establish a global climate change resilience Strategy, to authorize the admission of climate-displaced persons, and for other purposes.* (2019-10-17) [Legislation].
<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4732/text>
- Richardson, G. R. A. (2010). *Adapting to climate change: An introduction for Canadian municipalities*. Natural Resources Canada. https://natural-resources.canada.ca/sites/nrcan/files/earthsciences/pdf/mun/pdf/mun_e.pdf
- Roberts, S. E. (2020). The bureaucratic and political work of immigration classifications: An analysis of the temporary foreign workers program and access to settlement services in Canada. *Journal of International Migration and Integration*, 21(3), 973–992. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12134-019-00693-w>
- Scherer, N., & Tänzler, D. (2018, December 19). *The Vulnerable Twenty – From climate risks to adaptation* | *Climate-Diplomacy*. <https://climate-diplomacy.org/magazine/environment/vulnerable-twenty-climate-risks-adaptation>
- Schmeer, K. (2000). Stakeholder analysis guidelines. *Policy Toolkit for Strengthening Health Sector Reform*.
- Settlement.org. (2021). *How does the government enforce Canadian immigration laws?*
<https://settlement.org/ontario/immigration-citizenship/immigration-laws/enforcement/how-does-the-government-enforce-canadian-immigration-laws/>
- Shah, S. (2020). *The next great migration* (1st ed.). Bloomsbury Publishing.
- Standing, G. (2011). *The precariat: The new dangerous class*. Bloomsbury Academic.
<https://doi.org/10.5040/9781849664554>

- Stojanov, R., Rosengaertner, S., de Sherbinin, A., & Nawrotzki, R. (2021). Climate mobility and development cooperation. *Population and Environment*, 43(2), 209–231. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11111-021-00387-5>
- Tacoli, C. (2009). Crisis or adaptation ? Migration and climate change in a context of high mobility. *Environment and Urbanization*, 21(2), 513–525. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0956247809342182>
- Task Force on Displacement Activity 11.2. (2018). *Mapping human mobility (migration, displacement and planned relocation) and climate change in international processes, policies and legal frameworks*. International Organization for Migration (IOM). <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/WIM%20TFD%20II.2%20Output.pdf>
- The Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers (CARL). (2021). *The Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers' 2021 report on climate migrants* (pp. 1–14). The Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers (CARL). <https://carl-acaadr.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/CARL-Climate-Migration-Report-FINAL-AB-1.pdf>
- The Government Office for Science, London. (2011). *Foresight: Migration and global environmental change*. The Government Office for Science.
- The Nansen Initiative. (2015). *Agenda for the protection of cross-border displaced persons in the context of disasters and climate change: Volume I*. https://disasterdisplacement.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/EN_Protection_Agenda_Volume_I_low_res.pdf
- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (n.d.). *The principle of non-refoulement under international human rights law*. <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/Migration/GlobalCompactMigration/ThePrincipleNon-RefoulementUnderInternationalHumanRightsLaw.pdf>
- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR]. (2024). *The Global Compact on Refugees*. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. <https://www.unhcr.org/about-unhcr/who-we-are/global-compact-refugees>
- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2022, March). *Climate Change, Displacement and Human Rights*. <https://www.unhcr.org/publications/brochures/6242ea7c4/climate-change-displacement-human-rights.html>
- The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2013). *Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts | UNFCCC*. <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/loss-and-damage/warsaw-international-mechanism>
- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2018). *The principle of non-refoulement under international human rights law*. <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/Migration/GlobalCompactMigration/ThePrincipleNon-RefoulementUnderInternationalHumanRightsLaw.pdf>
- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2024). *The Global Compact on Refugees*. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. <https://www.unhcr.org/about-unhcr/who-we-are/global-compact-refugees>
- The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. (2004). *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, Second Edition*. United Nations. <https://www.unhcr.org/media/guiding-principles-internal-displacement>
- The White House. (2021a, February 5). *Executive order on rebuilding and enhancing programs to resettle refugees and planning for the impact of climate change on migration*. The White House. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/02/04/executive-order-on->

[rebuilding-and-enhancing-programs-to-resettle-refugees-and-planning-for-the-impact-of-climate-change-on-migration/](#)

The White House. (2021b). *Report on the impact of climate change on migration*.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Report-on-the-Impact-of-Climate-Change-on-Migration.pdf>

The World Bank. (2004). *Involuntary resettlement sourcebook: Planning and implementation in development projects*. World Bank.

Torraco, R. J. (2005). Writing integrative literature reviews: Guidelines and examples. *Human Resource Development Review*, 4(3), 356–367. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1534484305278283>

Traore Chazalnoël, M. T., & Ionesco, D. (2022). Perspectives from the International Organization for Migration (IOM): Breaking new ground on the governance of climate migration. In S. Behrman & A. Kent (Eds.), *Climate Refugees* (1st ed., pp. 41–59). Cambridge University Press.

<https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108902991.003>

Traore Chazalnoël, M., & Randall, A. (2022). Migration and the slow-onset impacts of climate change: Taking stock and taking action. *World Migration Report*, 2022(1), e00030.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/wom3.30>

Trochim, W. M. K. (2020). *Qualitative Validity*. Research Methods Knowledge Base.

<https://conjointly.com/kb/qualitative-validity/>

Tumilty, R. (2024, March 12). More Ukrainians are heading to Canada as emergency travel deadline approaches, advocate says. *National Post*. <https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/program-for-ukrainians-seeking-to-come-to-canada-ends-this-month#:~:text=Ukrainians%20had%20until%20last%20July,about%20250%2C000%20people%20had%20arrived.>

<https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/program-for-ukrainians-seeking-to-come-to-canada-ends-this-month#:~:text=Ukrainians%20had%20until%20last%20July,about%20250%2C000%20people%20had%20arrived.>

Underwood, K. (2023, September). The interview: For Minister Sean Fraser, immigration is more than just a numbers game. *Maclean's*, 136(7), 13–17.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Intro to Cancun Agreements* |

[UNFCCC. https://unfccc.int/process/conferences/the-big-picture/milestones/the-cancun-agreements](https://unfccc.int/process/conferences/the-big-picture/milestones/the-cancun-agreements)

United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. (1989). *Convention on the Rights of the Child*. OHCHR. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child>

United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. (1979). *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women New York, 18 December 1979*. OHCHR.

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-elimination-all-forms-discrimination-against-women>

United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. (1951). *Convention relating to the Status of Refugees*. OHCHR. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-relating-status-refugees>

United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. (1966). *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*. OHCHR. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-covenant-economic-social-and-cultural-rights>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2020). *Legal considerations regarding claims for international protection made in the context of the adverse effects of climate change and disasters*. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. <https://www.refworld.org/docid/5f75f2734.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2018). *The New York declaration for refugees and migrants: Answers to frequently asked questions*. UNHCR.

<https://www.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/legacy-pdf/584689257.pdf>

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. (1997, January 1). *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* | OCHA.

<https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/world/guiding-principles-internal-displacement-0>

United States Mission to the United Nations. (2022, October 28). *Remarks at a meeting of the sixth committee on agenda Item 77: Report of the international law commission on the work of its 73rd session: Cluster two*. United States Mission to the United Nations.

<https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-meeting-of-the-sixth-committee-on-agenda-item-77-report-of-the-international-law-commission-on-the-work-of-its-73rd-session-cluster-two/>

Vieira, I. (2018). Environmental migrations without environmental migrants ? Perceptions and policies on environmental and mobility issues. In *Theory and Practice of Climate Adaptation* (pp. 297–310). Springer International Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-72874-2_17

Wilkinson, E., Schipper, L., Simonet, C., & Kubik, Z. (2016). *Climate change, migration and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development*. Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC.

<https://odi.org/en/publications/climate-change-migration-and-the-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development/>

Williams, A. (2008). Turning the tide: Recognizing climate change refugees in international law. *Law & Policy*, 30(4), 502–529. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9930.2008.00290.x>

Wyman, K. M. (2013). Responses to climate migration. *Harvard Environmental Law Review*, 37(1), 167–216.

Zetter, R. (2011). *Protecting environmentally displaced people: Developing the capacity of legal and normative frameworks*. Oxford Refugee Studies Centre.

<https://www.refworld.org/reference/research/rsc/2011/en/78917>

Appendices

Appendix A – Email recruitment letter

Group 1 – Canadian Participants

Good day,

I am conducting a research study on international climate-affected migration immigration policy and practices and their applicability in the Canadian context. Given your experiences and expertise in the field, I feel that you are well suited to provide insight into this topic and I would like to invite you to participate in this study. This study is being completed as a requirement of my graduate degree in Community Development and is being supervised by Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly through the University of Victoria.

If you decide to volunteer for this study, your participation will consist of a one-on-one semi-structured interview that will take between 20-30 minutes of your time which will take place between July 10, 2024 – September 5, 2024. During the interview you will be asked questions about international and Canadian immigration and climate-affected migration policy and promising practices. With your permission, I would like to record the interview to ensure accurate transcription and analysis. Please note that should your organization require internal workplace permissions; this will have to be completed by you prior to your participation in the study.

This study has been reviewed and received ethics approval through the University of Victoria Human Research Ethics Board (ethics protocol number 23-0203).

If you would like to participate, or you require additional information to assist you in reaching a decision about participation, please do not hesitate to contact me at meghanreid@uvic.ca. You may also contact my supervisor at ebrunetj@uvic.ca. If you are aware of someone who may be interested in participating, please feel free to forward this email to them.

I understand that your time is valuable and will schedule the interview around your preferences, needs and schedule. I can also share the interview questions ahead of time if this is something you would like. I really appreciate your help on my learning journey and would be extremely grateful for any time you can provide me.

Sincerely,

Meghan Reid

Group 2 – International Participants

Good day,

I am conducting a research study on international climate-affected migration immigration policy and practices and their applicability in the Canadian context. Given your experiences and expertise in the field, I feel that you are well suited to provide insight into this topic and I would like to invite you to participate in this study. This study is being completed as a requirement of my graduate degree in Community Development and is being supervised by Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly through the University of Victoria.

If you decide to volunteer for this study, your participation will consist of a one-on-one semi-structured interview that will take between 20-30 minutes of your time which will take place between July 10, 2024 – September 5, 2024. During the interview you will be asked questions about international and Canadian immigration and climate-affected migration policy and promising practices. With your permission, I would like to record the interview to ensure accurate transcription and analysis. Please note that should your organization require internal workplace permissions; this will have to be completed by you prior to your participation in the study.

This study has been reviewed and received ethics approval through the University of Victoria Human Research Ethics Board (ethics protocol number 23-0203).

If you would like to participate, or you require additional information to assist you in reaching a decision about participation, please do not hesitate to contact me at meghanreid@uvic.ca. You may also contact my supervisor at ebrunetj@uvic.ca. If you are aware of someone who may be interested in participating, please feel free to forward this email to them.

I understand that your time is valuable and will schedule the interview around your preferences, needs and schedule. I can also share the interview questions ahead of time if this is something you would like. I really appreciate your help on my learning journey and would be extremely grateful for any time you can provide me.

Sincerely,

Meghan Reid

To General Mailboxes

Good day,

I am conducting a research study on international climate-affected migration immigration policy and practices and their applicability in the Canadian context. Given your experiences and expertise in the field, I feel that you are well suited to provide insight into this topic and I would like to invite you to participate in this study. This study is being completed as a requirement of my graduate degree in Community Development and is being supervised by Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly through the University of Victoria.

If you decide to volunteer for this study, your participation will consist of a one-on-one semi-structured interview that will take between 20-30 minutes of your time which will take place between July 10, 2024 – September 5, 2024. During the interview you will be asked questions about international and Canadian immigration and climate-affected migration policy and promising practices. With your permission, I would like to record the interview to ensure accurate transcription and analysis. Please note that should your organization require internal workplace permissions; this will have to be completed by you prior to your participation in the study.

This study has been reviewed and received ethics approval through the University of Victoria Human Research Ethics Board (ethics protocol number 23-0203).

If you would like to participate, or you require additional information to assist you in reaching a decision about participation, please do not hesitate to contact me at meghanreid@uvic.ca. You may also contact my supervisor at ebrunetj@uvic.ca. If you are aware of someone who may be interested in participating, please feel free to forward this email to them.

I understand that your time is valuable and will schedule the interview around your preferences, needs and schedule. I can also share the interview questions ahead of time if this is something you would like. I really appreciate your help on my learning journey and would be extremely grateful for any time you can provide me.

Sincerely,

Meghan Reid

Appendix B – Email Recruitment Script

Group 1 – Canadian Participants

P= Potential Participant

I= Interviewer

I: May I please speak to [name of participant]?

P: Hello, [name of potential participant] speaking. How may I help you?

I: My name is Meghan Reid, and I am a Master's Student in the Master of Arts in Community Development program through the University of Victoria. I am currently conducting research under the supervision of Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly on international climate-affected migration immigration policy and practices and their applicability in the Canadian context. As a part of my research, I am conducting interviews with civil servants to discover their perspectives on international and Canadian immigration and climate migrant policy and promising practices. Given your experiences and expertise in the field, I feel that you are well suited to provide insight into this topic and I would like to invite you to participate in this study. Is this a convenient time to give you further information about the interviews?

P: No, could you call back later (agree on future time to discuss).

OR

P: Yes, could you provide me with some more information regarding the interviews you will be conducting?

I: Background information –

- I will be undertaking interviews starting in October of 2023.
- The interview would take between 30-45 minutes, and would be arranged for a time convenient to your schedule.
- Involvement in this interview is entirely voluntary and there are no known or anticipated risks to participation in this study.
- The questions are quite general.
- You may decline to answer any of the interview questions you do not wish to answer and may terminate the interview at any time.
- With your permission, the interview will be tape-recorded to facilitate collection of information, and later transcribed for analysis.
- Please note that should your organization require internal workplace permissions; this will have to be completed by you prior to your participation in the study.
- All information you provide will be considered confidential.
- The data collected will be kept in a secure location and disposed of following successful completion of the graduate project.
- If you have any questions regarding this study, or would like additional information to assist you in reaching a decision about participation, please feel free to contact Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly. The final decision about participation is yours.
- I would like to assure you that this study has been reviewed by the University of Victoria's Human Research Ethics Board for compliance with federal guidelines for human research.
- After all the data have been analyzed, you will receive an executive summary of the research results.
- With your permission, I would like to email/mail/fax you an information letter which has all of these details along with contact names and numbers on it to assist you in making a decision about your participation in this study.

P: No thank you.

OR

P: Sure [get contact information from potential participant].

I: I will send you the information and consent forms for your completion. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Group 2 – International Participants

P= Potential Participant

I= Interviewer

I: May I please speak to [name of participant]?

P: Hello, [name of potential participant] speaking. How may I help you?

I: My name is Meghan Reid, and I am a Master's Student in the Masters of Community Development program through the University of Victoria in Canada. I am currently conducting research under the supervision of Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly on international climate migrant immigration policy and practices and their applicability in the Canadian context. As a part of my research, I am conducting interviews with civil servants to discover their perspectives on international immigration and climate migrant policy and promising practices. Given your experiences and expertise in the field, I feel that you are well suited to provide insight into this topic and I would like to invite you to participate in this study. Is this a convenient time to give you further information about the interviews?

P: No, could you call back later (agree on future time to discuss).

OR

P: Yes, could you provide me with some more information regarding the interviews you will be conducting?

I: Background information –

- I will be undertaking interviews starting in October of 2023.
- The interview would take between 30-45 minutes, and would be arranged for a time convenient to your schedule.
- Involvement in this interview is entirely voluntary and there are no known or anticipated risks to participation in this study.
- The questions are quite general.
- You may decline to answer any of the interview questions you do not wish to answer and may terminate the interview at any time.
- With your permission, the interview will be tape-recorded to facilitate collection of information, and later transcribed for analysis.
- Please note that should your organization require internal workplace permissions; this will have to be completed by you prior to your participation in the study.
- All information you provide will be considered confidential.
- The data collected will be kept in a secure location and disposed of following successful completion of the graduate project.
- If you have any questions regarding this study, or would like additional information to assist you in reaching a decision about participation, please feel free to contact Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly. The final decision about participation is yours.
- I would like to assure you that this study has been reviewed by the University of Victoria's Human Research Ethics Board for compliance with federal guidelines for human research.
- After all the data have been analyzed, you will receive an executive summary of the

research results.

- With your permission, I would like to email/mail/fax you an information letter which has all of these details along with contact names and numbers on it to assist you in making a decision about your participation in this study.

P: No thank you.

OR

P: Sure [get contact information from potential participant].

I: I will send you the information and consent forms for your completion. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

DRAFT



International Climate Migrant Immigration Policy and Practices and their Applicability in the Canadian Context

You are invited to participate in a study entitled International Climate-Affected migration Immigration Policy and Practices and their Applicability in the Canadian Context that is being conducted by Meghan Reid under the supervision of Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly.

Meghan Reid is a graduate student in the department of the School of Public Administration at the University of Victoria, and you may contact her if you have further questions by email at meghanreid@uvic.ca or by phone at 403-512-7387.

As a graduate student, I am required to conduct research as part of the requirements for a degree in a Master of Arts in Community Development. It is being conducted under the supervision of Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly. You may contact my supervisor at ebrunetj@uvic.ca.

Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this research project is to examine international and national climate migrant immigration policy alongside emerging promising practices and lessons learned to reveal their applicability in the Canadian context.

Importance of this Research

Research of this type is important because current Canadian immigration policy does not consider individuals who need to relocate due to the impacts of climate change on their place of origin. This emerging issue demands consideration so that Canada can be prepared to adequately support climate migrants not only through inclusive policies, but also through equitable support systems for migrants.

Participants Selection

You are being asked to participate in this study because you have knowledge of the affected community in addition to implications of policy changes. You also have awareness of existing international policies and promising practices emerging related to climate migrants.

What is involved

If you consent to voluntarily participate in this research, your participation will include a one-on-one semi-structured interview that will take between 20-30 minutes of your time. During the interview you will be asked questions about international and Canadian immigration and climate migrant policy and promising practices. With your permission, I would like to record the interview

to ensure accurate transcription and analysis.

Inconvenience

Participation in this study may cause some inconvenience to you, including scheduling to accommodate a 20–30-minute interview.

Risks

There are no known or anticipated risks to you by participating in this research.

Benefits

The potential benefits of your participation in this research include the ability to provide options for policy reform based on learnings and promising practices shown in other countries. It may have an impact on increasing knowledge in the field of policy related to international climate migration, as well as expand existing knowledge on the topic.

Voluntary Participation

Your participation in this research must be completely voluntary. Please note that should your organization require internal workplace permissions; this will have to be completed by you prior to your participation in the study. If you do decide to participate, you may withdraw at any time without any consequences or any explanation. If you do withdraw from the study your data will be used only if you provide permission.

Anonymity

In terms of protecting your anonymity there will be no way to link the data collected to you, the participant in the dissemination of results. Only the researcher and supervisor will be aware of your identity.

Confidentiality

Your confidentiality and the confidentiality of the data will be protected through the storage of the data collected through the University of Victoria's Systems 'personal home storage file', which is a secure storage option that is password protected. Paper copies will only be used when coding interviews after non-identifiers have been applied. Only the researcher and project supervisor will be aware of your participation in the study. Non-identifiers such as codes or pseudonyms will be used when transcribing, coding, and reporting interview findings. Limits of confidentiality are contextual, as the nature or size from which participants are drawn makes it possible to identify individual participants. Please be advised that this research study includes data storage in U.S.A if Zoom and/or Microsoft Teams are used when conducting interviews, as these interviews in this format will be recorded. As such, there is a possibility that information about you that is gathered for this research study may be accessed without your knowledge or consent by the U.S. government, in compliance with the U.S. Freedom Act.

Dissemination of Results

It is anticipated that the results of this study will be shared with others in the following ways: directly to participants; published article; project defense; published on project website through the University of Victoria.

Disposal of Data

Data from this study will be disposed of following the successful project defense. Electronic data will be erased, and any paper copies will be shredded.

Contacts

Individuals that may be contacted regarding this study include the supervisor of this project, whose contact information can be found at the beginning of this consent form.

In addition, you may verify the ethical approval of this study, or raise any concerns you might have, by contacting the Human Research Ethics Office at the University of Victoria (250-472-4545 or ethics@uvic.ca).

Your signature below indicates that you understand the above conditions of participation in this study, that you have had the opportunity to have your questions answered by the researchers, and that you consent to participate in this research project.

Name of Participant

Signature

Date

A copy of this consent will be left with you, and a copy will be taken by the researcher.

Appendix D – Email follow up letter due to lack of response

****Reply to initial email sent (see Appendix A – Email recruitment letter) ****

Good morning,

I hope that this email reaches you well. On November 2, 2023 I sent an email to inquire about your interest in participating in a graduate research project through a 30–45-minute one-on-one interview on international climate affected migration immigration policy and practices and their applicability in the Canadian context. I just wanted to check in to see if this is something you would be open to participating in.

If you would like to participate, or you require additional information to assist you in reaching a decision about participation, please do not hesitate to contact me at meghanreid@uvic.ca. You may also contact my supervisor at ebrunetj@uvic.ca

Sincerely,

Meghan Reid

DRAFT

Appendix E – Data Collection Instrument: Interview Questions

Interview questions have been developed following the literature review, which comprised of over 300 academic and non-academic articles. This led to the uncovering of three core themes which are addressed in the interview questions. These three themes include: the role of human rights relating to climate change resulting in migration, existing national and international policy solutions to climate affected migration, and the importance of host countries considering appropriate policy measures that integrate infrastructure to support the successful relocation and integration of climate affected migrants in their new context.

Interviews will be semi-structured to allow for elaboration and follow up questions to provide elaboration to gain deeper insights. All key questions will remain the same for all participants to allow for consistency.

1. What policy reform and/or promising practices are emerging in your context?
2. Were there any existing national or international frameworks/solutions/guidance that you utilized to develop your policy/practice?
3. How has your policy/practice focused on human rights from the policy itself? What things do you feel are/were missing or overlooked with the policy/practice?
4. Is there anything I haven't asked that you think I should know?
5. Do you have anyone else in mind that you would recommend to participate in this study?