

The EACH-FOR Journey Has Reached its Destination - Looking Back on Two Years of Fascinating Expeditions



One interpretation of the EACH-FOR logo is that it shows waves. Waves of forced migrants? Waves that propel the EACH-FOR project boat to its destination?

The journey of the boat started more than two years ago with the preparation of the proposal. Since then we have visited some quiet waters but also encountered some rocky passages.

Some of the team disembarked to do field

work, sometimes finding not only interesting results but also dangerous circumstances. We also stopped along the way to share

our experiences with other colleagues and to discuss the implications of our findings with a wide range of interested people.

Now, as we approach the destination we see that our research along the way has produced some fascinating insights and that the route that we chose (our methodological approach) has been mapped. We also see that our current destination is only a temporary stopping place, where we will document the journey so far before we can hopefully

embark on a further expedition.

Obviously we would like to take more colleagues with us on the next stage of the journey. We need to go back to some of the places that we visited and explore them more thoroughly. We need to add some more places onto the itinerary. All of this will require financial support, however, and we are continuing our efforts in this regard, so that the EACH-FOR boat does not end its days in some forgotten port.

As always at the end of a trip, it is important to thank the organisers and the supporters. We are all really grateful for the opportunity that we had to take part in this adventure.

As Scientific Director, however, I would par-

ticularly like to acknowledge all of the young members of our crew, who have worked so diligently to keep the boat afloat and bring back such interesting material from the trips ashore.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jill Jäger

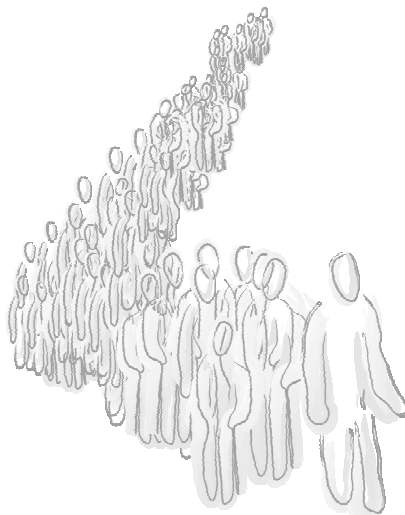
Scientific Director of EACH-FOR project

Dr. Jill Jäger has been a Senior Scientist at the Sustainable Europe Research Institute (SERI) in Vienna, Austria. Her work focuses on sustainability assessment and the linkages between science and policy in the area of environmental change.

EACH-FOR Project

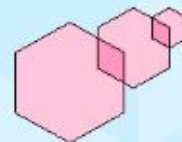
Environmental Change and Forced Migration Scenarios (EACH-FOR) is a co-financed research project within the Sixth Framework Program of the European Commission.

For more information please visit the official project's website www.each-for.eu and/or www.ehs.unu.edu



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EACH-FOR WORLDWIDE

EFMSV-Conference as International Platform for In-Depth Debates

The conference co-hosted by the EACH-FOR project and UNU-EHS was a major highlight for the project proving that environmental migration needs more research and legal frameworks.

Bonn (Germany): From 9-11 October, the EACH-FOR conference on Environment,



The Plenary Hall in the Wasserwerk Bonn, one of the EFMSV conference venues.

Forced Migration and Social Vulnerability (EFMSV) was held in Bonn. It brought together almost 300 members from 60 different countries. Participants came from various disciplines, including representatives from academia, public offices and ministries, NGOs, donors and humanitarian organisations. Together they explored the links between environmental degradation, migration and social vulnerability. This interdisciplinary three-day-long conference was certainly one of the major highlights of the two-year EACH-FOR project.

The participants widely agreed that environmentally

induced migration still needs a commonly accepted definition. Since climate change and environmental factors are closely interlinked with others such as economic, ecological and social factors, environmentally induced migration is difficult to capture and delimit. Furthermore, the slow deterioration of the environment is often not felt directly, but is manifested by a change of livelihoods

and the interaction with other factors. Due to this slow deterioration, environmentally induced migration is hardly ever triggered by a single tipping point but rather by a series and composition of push and pull factors.

In general, people are attached to their original place of living and would prefer not to move. Improving the livelihoods in the respective countries of origin could therefore offer a chance for those having to migrate and an important strategy of survival for those, who cannot afford to move due to poverty.

It needs to be stressed, that research on environmental migration is to be carried out

in a trans- and interdisciplinary way. At the same time, a legal framework needs to be developed, environmental protection as an international obligation must be addressed in a more effective way, and the Geneva Refugee Convention needs to be adapted accordingly. Furthermore, migration should be discussed at the adaptation dialogues of climate change conventions, since migration may sometimes be a part of the adaptation to environmental change, although it more often is rather the failure to adapt.

Overall, UNU-EHS was honoured to host this highly relevant conference exactly at a time when the issue of climate change and its linkages with migration was being increasingly discussed in policy making debates at local, national and international levels.

It was the first large-scale conference to discuss the sensitive and complex interplay of the above mentioned factors at a comprehensive and policy relevant level. In addition, the conference offered numerous possibilities to intensify the dialogue and bring together expertise from various stakeholders from around the globe.

To tackle the topics in depth and from these various perspectives, the conference offered two different types of sessions: plenary sessions, like welcoming remarks, keynote speeches and panel discussions, and 24 parallel sessions in four blocks. Participants could choose between six different parallel sessions on specific aspects. Among others, the EACH-FOR case studies were presented in these sessions that were subdivided into the regions: Middle East and North Africa, Asia Pacific, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Central Asia and the Newly Independent States, as well as Europe and Russia, providing an encompassing overview over the current debate and allowing in-depth discussions.



International participants during an EFMSV parallel session.

UNU-EHS Experts Discuss Environmental Migration Around the World

Specialists from UNU-EHS outlined the issue of environmentally induced migration by successfully presenting case studies and specialised knowledge at events in Jordan, Denmark and France.

Amman (Jordan): Dr. Tamer Afifi (UNU-EHS), attended the conference "Climate Change Policies in the Arab Middle East – Challenges for Decision Makers and Activists", from 21-22 October 2008, in Amman. Dr. Afifi presented on the topic "Do Environmental Problems influence Migration in Egypt?" and successfully showed the interconnectivity of environmental degradation and migration. The conference was

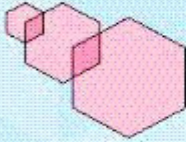
hosted by the United Nations University – International Leadership Institute (UNU-ILI) and sponsored by the Heinrich Böll Foundation.

Copenhagen (Denmark): Marc Stal (UNU-EHS) actively participated in a panel of the "Marshall Forum on Transatlantic Affairs", as the main expert on the topic of environmentally induced migration. He gave a short presentation on the importance of raising

awareness and highlighted possible future challenges for policy makers, NGOs, media, and academics. The Marshall Forum is a venue where ideas about the transatlantic relationship are discussed by prominent US and European speakers as well as participants. It took place in Copenhagen from 23-26 October 2008.

Marseille (France): Following the invitation to represent

UNU-EHS and the EACH-FOR project, Olivia Dun gave a presentation on the topic of environmental migration, outlining the concept and presenting the EACH-FOR case study from Morocco at the "Euromed Civil Forum 2008". From 31 October - 1 November 2008, the platform for civil society organisations intended to network, discuss their role and make recommendations to governments took place in Marseille.



EACH-FOR FOCUS

UN Climate Negotiations highlight environmental migration

UNU-EHS organised a side event at the COP 14 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Poznań at which its scientific experts provided a theoretical framework and case studies regarding environmental migration.



UNU-EHS experts presenting their findings at the UN Climate Conference in Poland.

Poznań (Poland): UNU-EHS experts presented their work on environmentally induced migration within the EACH-FOR Project during the European Unions Side Event Programme at the COP 14 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Poznań. Dr. Koko Warner,

Olivia Dun, Marc Stal (UNU-EHS) and Francois Gemenne (University of Liege) shared their specialized knowledge with an audience of approximately 60 people on 6 December 2008. In the side event moderated by Lars Müller (Directorate General Research - European Com-

mission), Dr. Warner framed the event by providing an overview of the scientific rationale between climate, environmental change and migration. Francois Gemenne presented field work findings from Central Asia, Asia and the Pacific Islands before Marc Stal provided the audience with information on the relocation process along the Zambezi river valley in Central Mozambique. Olivia Dun presented on migration and displacement triggered by flood regime change in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam. Dr. Warner completed the presentations by featuring the key findings of the 22 case studies that were conducted by the EACH-FOR project. The presentations were followed by a lively discussion with a broad range of questions and statements. The

main outcome of the discussions was that the numbers of people being forced to move internationally still cannot be predicted even after the detailed research carried out by EACH-FOR.

The EU Side Events offered a valuable opportunity to share research and best practice from around the world, explain national and regional policy approaches, and debate key issues. EU Side Events supported and informed the climate negotiations by providing expertise knowledge.

For more information please visit:

<http://coportal1.man.poznan.pl/Archives.aspx>

www.each-for.eu

Interview: EACH-FOR Project Outcomes and Future Research

Interview with Jill Jäger, Scientific Director, and Thomas Faist, Professor of Transnational Relations and Development Studies at Bielefeld University and member of the Scientific Board of the EACH-FOR Project.

EACH-FOR: As the scientific director, what has been the most positive achievement of the EACH-FOR project?

Jäger: The most positive achievement so far is the first set of policy briefs, which provide a short overview of the case studies, their main findings and policy recommendations.

EACH-FOR: What are the key findings of the project?

Jäger: In my view that is that the results of fieldwork begin to question the numbers that have previously been published on the potential numbers of forced migrants due to climate change. We find repeatedly that the poorest of the poor cannot migrate and that many would not want to leave their current place of

residence because of family and social ties. Furthermore, many people lack the migration networks that would support a move away. This suggests that we may be facing different policy questions in the future. Instead of "How many migrants would come to Europe?", we might well be facing the question of "How do we deal with the increasing number of humanitarian crises as a result of global change?".

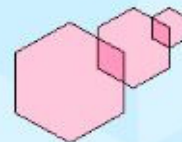
EACH-FOR: What stumbling blocks and stepping stones did you notice in the process of carrying out the project?

Faist: In my view, a major "stumbling block" was the search for a common methodology as well as the elaboration of our deliverables, above all the case-study reports. As many researchers have been involved, it has proven to be a difficult process to agree upon

and maintain common standards, which is necessary for the comparative perspective. In some cases, we are still working on the "harmonization" of the reports. An important stepping stone was the discussion of our preliminary findings, which was especially fruitful for those colleagues who are not directly involved in EACH-FOR. For example, the EFMSV conference showed the great interest in the topic. The discussions affirmed that we are on the right track and that many of our findings from the 22 cases in 24 countries show similarities. On this basis, we have to strive towards more generalizable conclusions about the nexus between environmental change and migration.

EACH-FOR: What impacts do you expect from the work of EACH-FOR on research, law, policy and humanitarian aid?

Faist: The EACH-FOR project was a "pilot study" but surely will have an important impact. For research, our consortium has a pioneer function, contributing an empirical basis for the study of the impacts of environmental change on migration. This is true in spite of the limited number of cases and the low volume of financial resources. As we were only able to zoom in on a few regions it has become obvious that further in-depth research is absolutely necessary. It is still too early to think about policy recommendations. Nonetheless, we did receive a positive feedback from policy-makers. In the mid- to long-term perspective, the results of our work may also contribute to the design of humanitarian aid in the field of environmentally induced migration.



NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Poor Soil Fertility in Senegal Leads to Forced Migration

The importance of sustainable agricultural development and equitable access to water and land resources is demonstrated by the EACH-FOR researcher Ms. Frauke Bleibaum in two regions in Senegal.

Senegal: Due to soil salinity, lack and overuse of fertiliser, the soil's fertility in the so-called Peanut Basin is poor. Farmers have to live on one – if at all – agricultural season per year. The region experiences strong emigration; all of Ms. Bleibaum's interview partners who had not migrated yet said they would leave if life in the village and/or on agriculture was no longer possible.

In the River valley region, irrigated agriculture is possible in some zones but farmers face difficulties in accessing land and in paying the fees for the use of irrigation

infrastructure. Due to dam construction and the new irrigation system, several problems have occurred: inundations, lack of flooding, soil salinization and water pollution due to fertiliser and pesticides. Out- as well as in-migration can be noted, the latter mostly by seasonal workers. Most of the interview partners living in regions where irrigated agriculture is possible, claimed that they were going to stay.

In addition, Ms. Bleibaum found that almost all of her migrant interviewees living in towns would return to their home villages, if the situation

in the agricultural sector improved.

She therefore concludes with recommendations on how to address the problem of environmentally induced migration: training in processing and food transformation techniques as well as in sustainable agricultural practices, strengthening of farmers self-organization, providing other income opportunities and promoting equitable access to water and land resources as well as supporting regional economic integration.

On an international level, she urges for fair agricultural and

trade policies in the European and North American countries by also granting the right of the "countries of the South" to protect their national markets and to promote regional economic integration as well as sustainable agricultural development.

For her study, apart from several expert interviews, Ms. Frauke Bleibaum conducted a total of 34 interviews with non-migrants and migrants.

Involuntary Resettlement and Drought in Turkey

EACH-FOR researcher Zeynep Kadirbeyoglu examined water issues and migration in Turkey and found that a stronger support from the state could ease the negative effects of environmental induced migration.

Turkey: The construction of the Ataturk Dam, which was completed in 1992, displaced 113,476 people who were either resettled by the state or chose autonomous resettling receiving monetary compensation.

Ms. Kadirbeyoglu found that those who were resettled by the state, however, had to wait until their new homes were ready, which meant for many to stay until the waters

flooded their village. In addition, many suffered from cultural adaptation problems and were discriminated against when they were resettled outside their region. Those who chose to resettle by themselves faced insufficient confiscation compensation, which was paid in three instalments, making it very difficult for migrants to buy new homes.

In her further research she found that the depletion of the groundwater sources in Suruç, a rural district of Şanlıurfa Province, in the 1990s had a huge impact on those whose livelihood depended on irrigated agriculture. As a consequence, many had to migrate to the city.

Not only the farmers but all sectors of society were affected by this drought-induced forced migration. The most vulnerable of them – like agricultural or construction workers – migrate seasonally, whereas those who were able to afford to migrate or had relatives elsewhere in Turkey migrated permanently.

There was no state support for those who were forced to migrate and the project to deliver water to Suruç from the Ataturk Dam has been postponed for the past ten years.

Ms. Kadirbeyoglu's research underlines the importance of

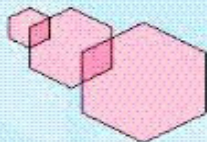
an involvement of the state to prevent the depletion of natural resources. If an impact of environmental stressors is not preventable, a stronger support from the state for those who are forced to leave is required.

The researcher stresses that the resettlement location should be decided in a participatory manner, that new employment opportunities should be promoted and that more serious guidance for displaced people is required.

For her study and field research, Ms. Zeynep Kadirbeyoglu conducted 14 expert interviews, 28 interviews with those displaced by the Ataturk Dam, and 20 interviews with people who had to leave Suruç, the rural district of Şanlıurfa Province in Turkey.



Farmers in Turkey face droughts which force many to migrate to towns.



EVENTS

Environmental Migration - A Reality?

2008. The symposium Bonn Dialogues brought together experts and the public to discuss the future of environmental migrants.

Bonn (Germany): UNU-EHS, together with the German Committee for Disaster Reduction (DKKV) and the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (UNU-IHDP) organised a public debate on 6 November 2008. The panellists and the moderator discussed environmental drivers of migration; geographical distribution and trends in

vulnerability and migration and migration as a coping strategy in the face of vulnerability. They also looked at temporary and permanent migration due to environmental changes and asked how to recognise and assist environmentally displaced persons.



More information can be found at: www.bonn-dialogues.org.

bonn dialogues

International Air and Water Forum

2008. EACH-FOR researcher presented findings to experts at an international conference on air and water quality.

Paris (France): The 3-day international conference *Les Respirations* took place in Paris from 14-16 November 2008. With the participation of Dr. Tamer Afifi (UNU-EHS), and his presentation on environmental change and migration, experts engaged in various discussions about that issue. This important air and water forum featured experts in political, economic and environmental

questions arising from issues of air and water quality. For four years *Les Respirations* has gathered experts, specialists and professionals from different sectors of the global community to share their experience.



For further information please refer to: www.lesrespirations.com.

Tipping Points in Humanitarian Crises

The 2009 Summer Academy on Social Vulnerability will focus on complex vulnerability and humanitarian disasters.



Munich (Germany): The academy 2009 will integrate the role of environment and the managed landscape, socio-economic processes of displacement and migration, and the institutions that mediate between sustainability and collapse. Furthermore, the academy will explore plausible futures where the complexity of vulnerability tips into a humanitarian crisis.

The summer academies provide a platform for about twenty outstanding PhD candidates from all over the world to present and discuss their research with leading international experts and scholars in social vulnerability, as well as senior scientists from UNU-EHS and the Munich Re Foundation (MRF).

For more information please visit: www.ehs.unu.edu.

UNU-EHS Workshops at World Water Forum

2009. WWF highlights migration and water.



Istanbul (Turkey): UNU-EHS together with the South Eastern Anatolian Project (GAP) and the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) is organizing and coordinating workshops at the 5th World Water Forum on the topic *Water-related Migration, Changing Land Use and Human Settlements*, which will be held in Istanbul

from 16 to 22 March 2009. The migration component will be the centre of discussion and debate in the respective context. Sessions featuring moderated panel discussions, will focus on rural-rural, rural-urban migration and crossing borders/seas will highlight implications for and linkages to water management and use.

For more information please visit: www.ehs.unu.edu.

PUBLICATIONS

EFMSV-Conference: Pre-Conference Proceedings and Two Post-Conference Publications



The Pre-Conference Proceedings of the EFMSV-Conference edited by Dr. Tamer Afifi (UNU-EHS) gives a picture of the co-organisers, partners, supporters and donors and sheds light on the EACH-FOR project. The proceedings were distributed among the conference participants from 9-11 October 2008.

To sum up the outcomes, two post-conference publications related to the EACH-FOR

project and the EFMSV conference will be produced in 2008/2009. One will be an edited book on Environment, Forced Migration and Social Vulnerability based on a selection of contributions at the EFMSV conference. The other will be a special edition of the peer-reviewed journal *International Migration* focusing on migration and the environment. Both publications are generously supported by the International Organization for Migration (IOM). For more information please visit: www.efmsv2008.org.

Debating Numbers, Definitions, and Solutions



EACH-FOR members made important contributions to the *Forced Migration Review* journal with articles such as *Defining 'environmental migration'*, *Field observations and empirical research*, *A global research agenda* and so forth. The 80-page issue published by the *Refugee Studies Centre of the University of Oxford*, focuses on climate change and displacement in response

to growing pressures on landscapes and livelihoods. It discusses the debates on the numbers, definitions, and modalities of people and communities that are migrating or adapting to changes as well as the tension between the need for research and the need to act. Thirty-eight articles by the UN, academic, international and local actors explore the potential displacement crisis, community adaptation and coping strategies, and the search for solutions. For more information, please visit: www.each-for.eu or www.fmreview.org.

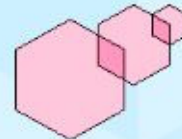
Environmental Migration Articles Enrich Technology Publication



The EACH-FOR project and UNU-EHS have delivered substantial contributions to the August edition of the *eStrategies Projects* with their articles *Researching environmental change and migration*. The magazine, published by British Publishers, is one of the most influential technology publications in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. It is a vital tool for important

dissemination of research results to a highly targeted audience. The publication delivers a unique blend of industry dissemination, comment and analysis to key decision and policy makers from both the public and private sectors.

For more information, please refer to: www.britishpublishers.com



Closing Words from the Director of UNU-EHS



As a partner of the two-year long EACH-FOR project, the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) has been able to

make some significant contributions. We have been engaging ourselves in international debates about the relation between environmental change and forced migration.

Furthermore, we represented the project at numerous international conferences, workshops and scientific events, where we emphasized the importance of the issue of environmental migrants and enquired about the possibility of granting this category of people an official status. The goal was to raise awareness for the topic among academics, policy makers, the media and the public.

Over the past two years, our team – together with the other EACH-FOR partners – have been conducting field and desk research on the topic. On our part, we covered four out of the 22 EACH-FOR case studies, namely Egypt, Mozambique, Niger and Vietnam, where we could identify the occurrence of

environmental migration with various degrees, depending on the country and the regions of research.

An important event of EACH-FOR was the Environment, Forced Migration and Social Vulnerability (EFMSV) International Conference, which was organized by UNU-EHS. The conference provided an encompassing overview over the current debate and was conceived at the same time to allow in-depth discussions of specific topics and themes closely related to the issue.

Consequently, an important outcome of EFMSV was the "Bonn Points" concept that contains nine core questions. They were addressed at the beginning of the conference and were answered throughout the 3 day long event. The outcome is a point of departure for various future events where the topic of environmentally induced migration shall be debated.

At least two other deliverables are planned for the year 2009: a book that covers a number of the EACH-FOR case studies and a selection of papers that were presented at EFMSV. In addition, we are in the process of editing a Special Edition on Environmental Migration for the journal *International Migration*. UNU-EHS is taking the lead in producing and coordinating these two publications with the kind support

of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Since the EACH-FOR project is drawing to a close, as the director of UNU-EHS, it is my pleasure to thank all those who contributed to the project especially our scientific researchers, donors, partners and associates for their substantial support.

Finally, I hope that EACH-FOR will provide a solid ground for further research of the environment-migration nexus, raise hereby more awareness and propose solutions that shall improve the status and conditions of environmentally induced migrants worldwide.

Sincerely,



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Prof. Dr. -Ing.
Janos J. Bogardi
Director UNU-EHS, Vice-rector a.i.

Prof. Dr. Janos Bogardi is a member of the scientific board of the EACH-FOR project. He is the Director of the United Nations University - Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) and the Vice Rector a.i. of UNU in Europe.



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ABOUT EACH-FOR UPDATE

EACH-FOR Update is the newsletter of the activities within the EACH-FOR project. The newsletter has been released twice a year in 2007 and the first half of 2008.

With this last issue of the EACH-FOR UPDATE the EACH-FOR project team would like to thank all readers for their interest and support. The EACH-FOR project website www.each-for.eu will continue to keep you updated about our work.

Sincerely,
the EACH-FOR project team