



LOSS AND DAMAGE AND THE CHALLENGES OF HUMAN MOBILITY AND DISPLACEMENT WORKING GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

WHAT IS THE GROUP?

A proposed working group that is informally affiliated with the Loss and Damage Collaboration's (L&DC) membership and network. The benefit of this setup is that colleagues from international organisations working on displacement and loss and damage such as UNDP, IOM, UNHCR and UNOCHA, IDMC and NRC, would be able to join an informal working group without concerns about impartiality.

Existing working groups under the L&DC include the [Santiago Network for Loss and Damage working group](#) and [Loss and Damage finance working group](#) and the Human Rights and L&D working group (affiliated output [here](#)) and the uninitiated quarterly convening of Loss and Damage researchers in collaboration with the [Loss and Damage Network](#).

WHAT ARE THE MAIN AIMS OF THE GROUP?

- To mainstream/spotlight the Loss and Damage and displacement nexus and the related opportunities for advocacy and outreach under and outside the UNFCCC.
- To advance discussion on terminological and conceptual issues related to displacement in the context of the adverse impacts of climate change and in Loss and Damage discussions, promoting shared understanding and coherence of advocacy and awareness approaches.
- To highlight progress on action and support regarding displacement and human mobility under the Loss and Damage discussions.
- To share knowledge, insights and contacts that are relevant to policy advocacy and awareness work on Loss and Damage and displacement.
- To identify examples of work on Loss and Damage and displacement at the national and local level, and promote action and support through visibility and dissemination of relevant information.



WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL VALUES?

The group would allow civil society organisations, researchers, academics, think-tanks, UN agencies and other organisations working on displacement and Loss and Damage to share updates on their work-in-progress, and plans for future work.

The group would link those working on Loss and Damage under the UNFCCC with those working on displacement, thereby bringing to light opportunities to mainstream displacement in the different work streams under the UNFCCC where Loss and Damage features including the Loss and Damage Fund, The Santiago Network For Loss and Damage (SNLD), the Global Stocktake of the Paris Agreement (GST) and the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCGQ). The group would also highlight opportunities to mainstream displacement within Loss and Damage workstreams outside of the UNFCCC such as the spending of grants made to address Loss and Damage by Parties (e.g Denmark), non-Party state actors (e.g Scotland) and regional governments (e.g Wallonia), The Bridgetown Initiative, The Global Shield Against Climate Risk, the humanitarian sector, and open calls for submissions to the Special Rapporteurs for Human Rights and Climate Change and Human Rights and the Environment.

The group would allow Loss and Damage, displacement, humanitarian, and research actors to explore opportunities to pool resources.

The group would encourage coordination on Loss and Damage and displacement work and discourage duplication of work to maximise the potential of limited resources. In particular, the group would seek coordination with the work under the Task Force on Displacement, while aiming to involve a broader variety of actors in policy-relevant discussions.

The group would encourage linkages between different UN agencies, as well as between UN agencies and civil society and research organisations. It would also represent a forum to link discussions on displacement with those focusing on Non-Economic Loss and Damage.

The group would aid the dissemination of project outputs to Loss and Damage actors working in the context of the UNFCCC including where possible to advisors, negotiators and chairs of groups (UNFCCC groupings), as well as other displacement actors. The group could support the identification of efforts on displacement in the context of the adverse effects of climate change, as well as their visibility and dissemination as part of discussions on the operationalisation of funding and support systems under the UNFCCC and beyond.

The group would enable the identification and undertaking of collaborative work on Loss and Damage and displacement-focused advocacy briefs and communications outputs that would be amplified through the L&DC social media channels, website and network.



WHAT ARE THE PROPOSED WORKING MODALITIES OF THE GROUP?

The group should meet regularly, discussing key topics of common interest of the members, with a specific focus on:

- Updates by members
- Opportunities for advocacy/visibility
- Advocacy efforts

Other points should be added to each discussion, in particular, to reflect upon time-sensitive elements (e.g. upcoming events, key publications, operational work or policy developments).

Development of meeting agendas and discussion on selected topics should be led by members. Members can however seek the participation of external experts who can contribute expert insights on relevant discussions.

The frequency of the meetings of the group will be determined by the members. Members will convene through a virtual meeting on zoom, and at a time that covers most time zones such as 12:00 GMT. In alternative, 2 call slots can be defined (East and West).

WHAT NEEDS TO BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION?

Before the group is formally established, potential members and stakeholders need to take a few elements into consideration:

- Whether the working group would be duplicating other existing Loss and Damage and displacement forums (e.g. similar membership, objectives, working modalities)
- Whether the proposed objectives and potential outputs add value to the members' practices and work.
- Whether the proposed working modalities are appropriate to the intended objectives.
- Whether the group should be established under the L&DC or rather affiliated with L&DC, but external.
- Whether there might be obstacles or challenges to progressing under such a structure (e.g. difficulties to reach a consensus due to multi-stakeholder nature, issues with framing or understanding of the issue), and whether any precaution or action is needed by the group in response.
- What capacity and resources are required to facilitate the group.