

Climate change and forced migration

The gravest effects of climate change may be those on human migration

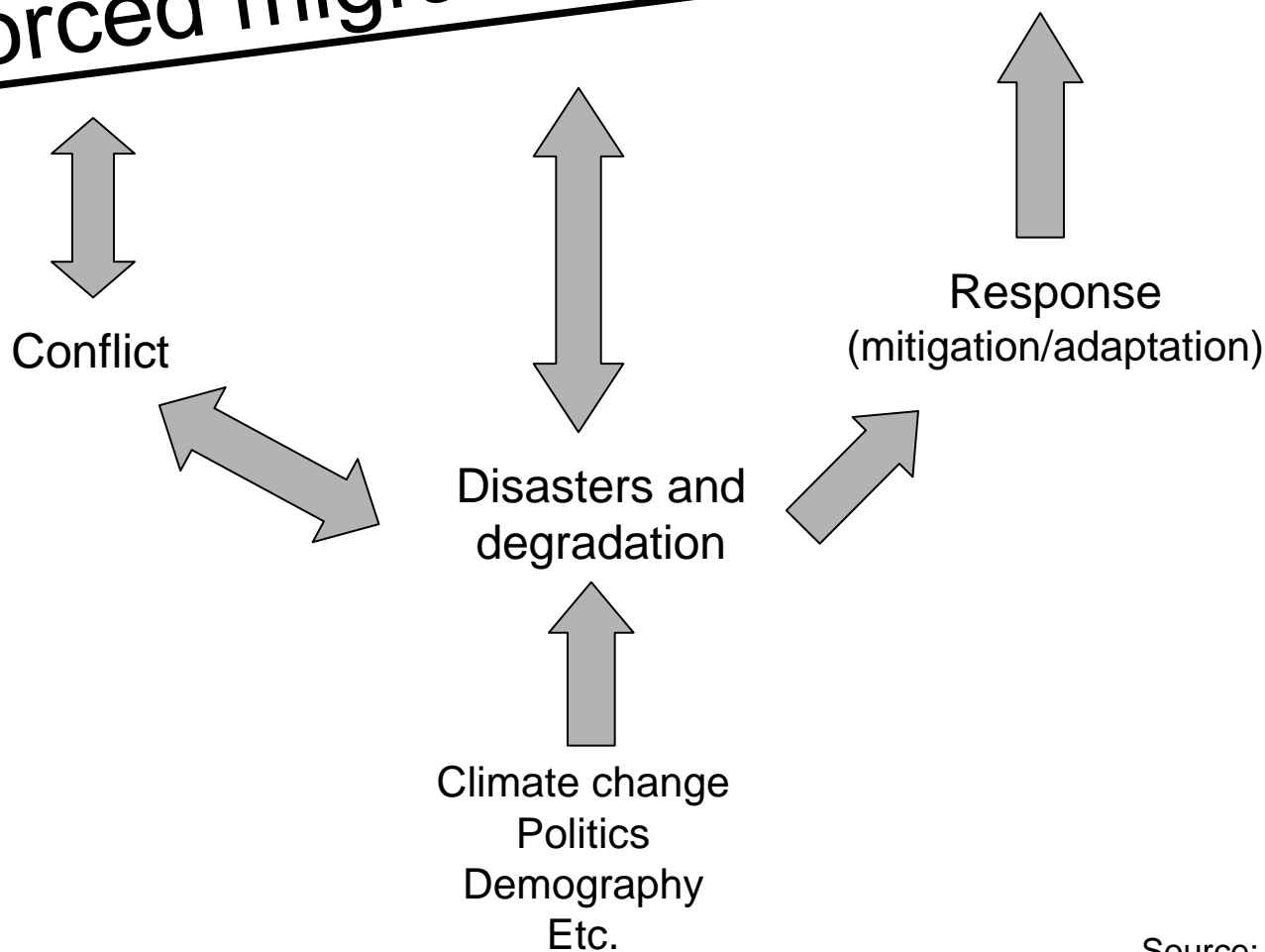
(IPCC 1990)



Elisabeth Rasmusson, Norwegian Refugee Council,
Climate change and forced migration, UNFCCC, Bonn, 08 June 2009.



Forced migration



Source: NRC

20 million people displaced

in 2008 by climate-related sudden nat. disasters (storms, floods etc)



Suggested modified para 25 of draft negotiating text



The adaptation {framework} {programme} shall support and enhance the implementation of national adaptation plans. Adaptation action includes: [...] (e) Activities related to national and international migration and displacement or planned relocation of persons affected by climate change.

Recommendations from Forced displacement in the context of climate change



- 1) Acknowledge in the agreed outcome the links between climate change and displacement and the obligation to address displacement in the context of climate change.
- 2) Establish alternative forms of protection for persons who do not qualify as refugees.
- 3) Build on existing international mechanisms and ensure policy coherence between mitigation, adaptation, humanitarian response and development.
- 4) Ensure that any adaptation and risk management regime covers forced displacement and gives priority to the needs of the most vulnerable people and those most affected by climate change.
- 5) Allocate adaptation funding to disaster risk reduction and humanitarian response.
- 6) Support and follow up research and action to identify and fill gaps associated with climate change and displacement.

The joint submission is available at

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/smsn/igo/049.pdf>