



AFRICA CLIMATE MOBILITY INITIATIVE FELLOWS

Project name: DATA ZETU: SAFE MOVEMENT TO RESILIENCE

Project scope: North Western Tanzania (Nyarugusu & Nduta Camp areas).

No Taka Tanzania Initiative

Literature Review and Situational Analysis Base Study

Literary Study Review.

While the majority of literature in the field of refugee studies centers on refugees specifically, recent years have seen an increasing amount of research that looks beyond the refugee communities to the other groups and individuals also affected by refugee emergencies. In particular, these studies look at how the host communities – the communities living in the areas where refugees eventually settle, either formally or informally – are impacted by a rapid and often unexpected influx of refugees.

Sometimes refugees bring positive changes to host communities, such as economic growth or the funding of various development projects by international aid organizations that have come to the area in response to the refugee emergency. However, the influx and presence of refugees has also been shown at times to have negative impacts within a hosting community. In light of this, it is important to not only investigate the impact of the presence of refugees on the hosting communities, but also to consider how these impacts have then influenced specific development issues. That specific issue in this case would be 'agriculture' as a social economic development aspect.

The Base study of this project is a literary review of the limited data sets from previous researchers and my ground experience working with Non-Governmental Organizations in Kigoma. A few studies are cited below:



Leah Berry: The impact of environmental degradation on refugee-host relations: a case study from Tanzania.

The researcher selected Northwestern Tanzania to pursue her research for several reasons. First, at the end of 2005, Tanzania was home to the fourth largest refugee population in the world, at 602,088 refugees (**403,854** receiving assistance from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees-UNHCR) (UNHCR "2005," 2006). Second, the majority of refugees in Tanzania live in UNHCR managed camps. Therefore, unlike in some parts of the world where refugees live among and have integrated with the local communities, in Tanzania there is a clear distinction between the refugee and host populations.

Key Findings:

- included environmental degradation being present in many of the refugee affected communities.
- UNHCR should put more emphasis on environmental resilience projects in order to prevent environmental degradation, rather than worry about dealing with the consequences of the degradation in the future.
- With correct data, refugee hosting area projects present an opportunity for economic growth.
- A factor of conflict resolution should be married into the environmental resilience projects in refugee areas.

Cassandra R. Veney, 2007: Rethinking African Refugees and Forced Migration

One of the key Findings in this study was that many of the numerous reported conflicts between the refugee and host communities in a number of refugee-affected areas are directly related to the environment and environmental degradation.

Mans Felleeson 2003 on Relations in refugee host communities

The researcher cites that the immediate environs of many of the camps have been totally depleted from trees and bushes and extensive deforestation. Besides changing the landscape, the preceding fact has also increased the risk of flooding, which in turn has increased soil erosion leading to a threatening decline in agricultural production for affected local communities.

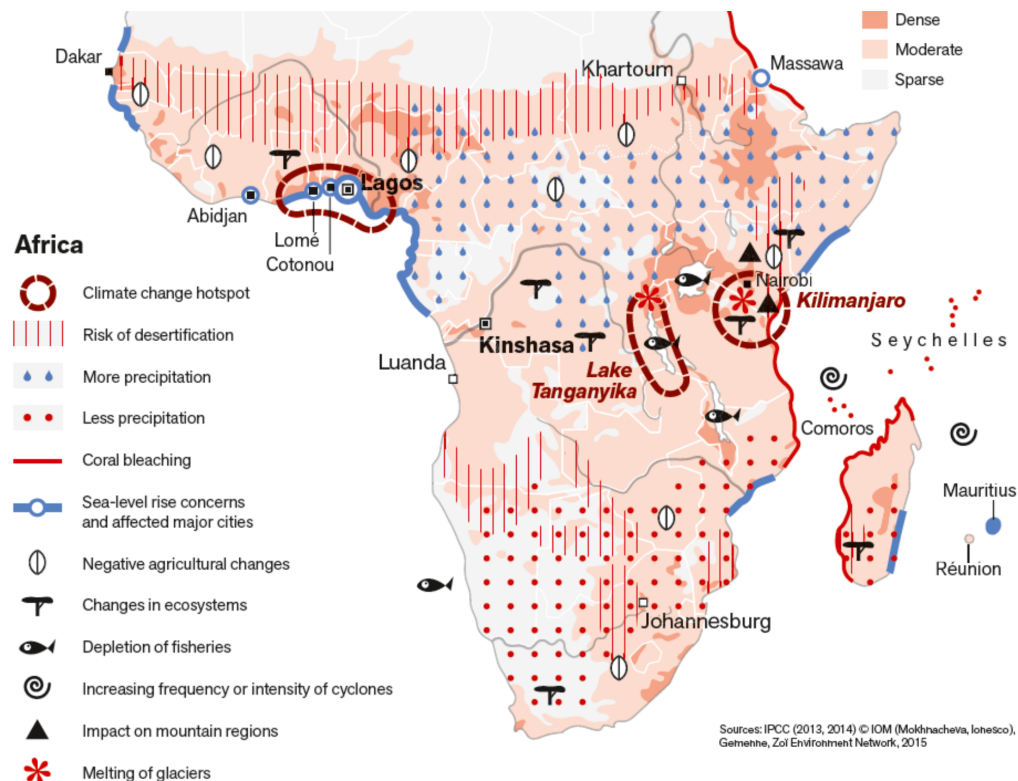
German Development Agency, 2019: Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change in Sub-Saharan Africa–Trends and Basic Recommendations for Development Cooperation.

Key Policy Recommendations:

- Collection of data and best practices: A solid and disaggregated data foundation is absolutely essential to address climate-change-related human mobility. In addition, there needs to be a systematic documentation of best practices regarding the complex problems of local vulnerability and the role of human mobility in such contexts.
- From an intensive dialogue, a more comprehensive integration of vulnerable, and at the same time politically and socially marginalized, groups is also highly important in solving issues related to climate mobility.

Africa Climate Change Infographic

Summarized African Map showing key issues on climate change in the region using data gathered from multiple credible sources as cited on the picture.





Situational Analysis

- In the past 3 years a prolonged dry spell has been affecting several districts in northeastern Tanzania, resulting in Crisis food insecurity levels for more than 13% of the analyzed population (437,000 people). The lack of water and pasture has affected livestock production; over 62,000 livestock have died since the start of the dry spell and that is just one data set against a number of other community aspects affected by the dry spell. Crop pests such as ants, fall armyworm, and rodents have contributed to crop failures and deterioration of food insecurity levels and affected people's access to food. To cope with the lack of water and pasture for livestock, some pastoralists are migrating to other areas that also have limited natural resources. Other households are cutting down on meals or selling their food stocks to cover their needs. For some host communities, the presence of refugees has created economic competition, especially in the agricultural sector, where most refugees are engaged. As refugees are paid less than workers from the host community, some Tanzanian nationals (especially casual laborers) see their economic opportunities affected. As a result, the Government has been limiting refugees' engagement in some economic activities such as in agricultural production since the 1990s. This decision resulted in more cases of crop theft by refugees to provide food for their families. Health facilities and referral hospitals are often overstretched by the increased population.
- As of the night of 25 October to 26 October 1996, AFDL/APR soldiers bombarded the Kibumba camp with heavy weapons, allegedly killing an unknown number of refugees and destroying the camp's hospital. Around 194,000 refugees fled Kibumba. The movement is expected to cause more refugees to come into Tanzania - Kigoma area and hence the need to strengthen resilience and resources. It would also be a strategic opportunity to map out the movement by using geospatial tools in order to inform environmental solutions for the camps. As well as to inform community capacity to accommodate the number of people sustainably.

Conclusions

The data gap in solving climate mobility issues is obvious and vivid. The Data Zetu project aims to only clear this data gap by providing sustainable data in areas affected by migration



challenges but also use the data as an intersectional tool of development issues that are respective to the challenges in the area.