Regional LWG working group

Climate and Displacement

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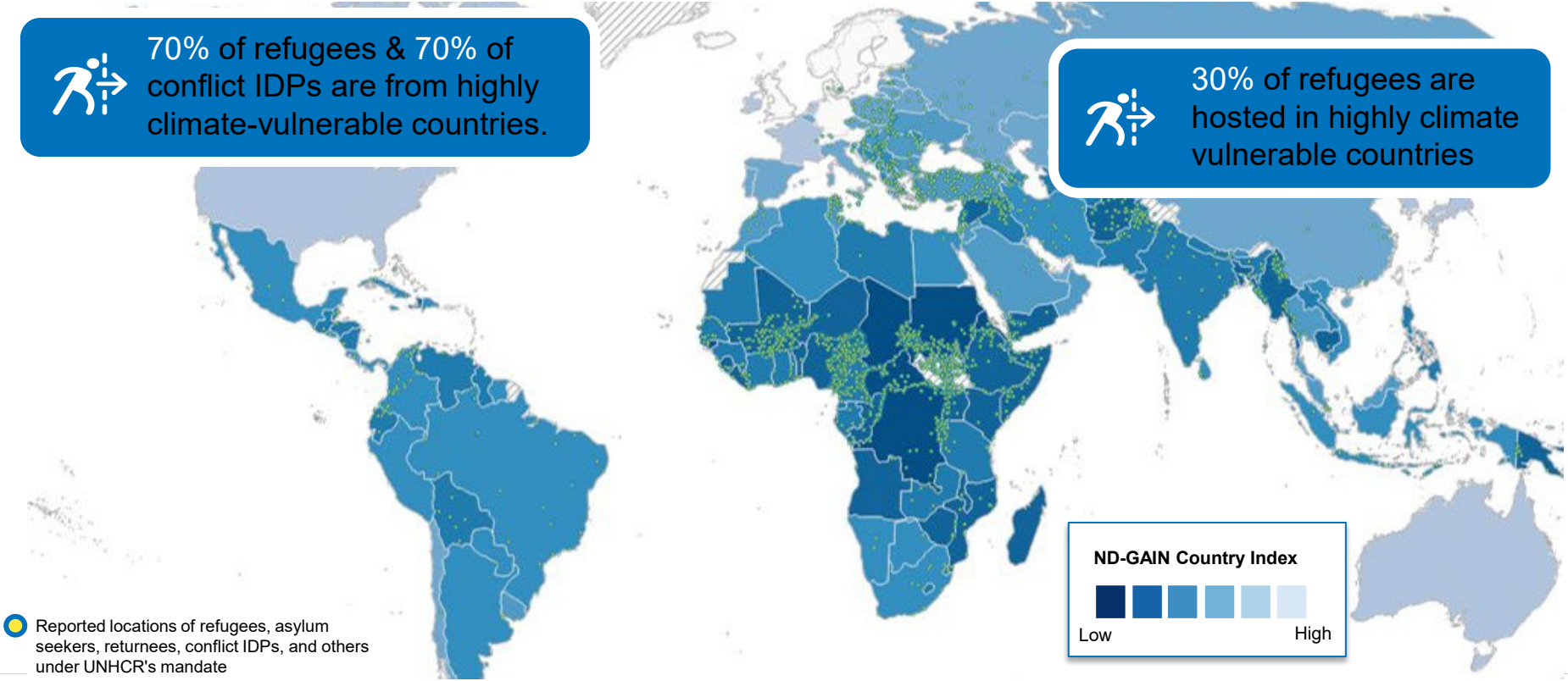
Climate change is a **vulnerability multiplier**, driving displacement and protection needs around the world

REfugees and PEOPLE internally displaced by CONFLICT On the climate frontlines

70% of refugees & 70% of conflict IDPs are from highly climate-vulnerable countries.

30% of refugees are hosted in highly climate vulnerable countries



Sources:

- UNHCR 2022 GIS Core database. UNHC data finder (end 2022 data).
- IDMC 2022. The total number of IDPs corresponds to the total number of people living in internal displacement caused by conflict and persecution as of 31 December 2022.
- ND-GAIN Vulnerability Index 2020. A similar ND-Gain index for South Sudan as for neighboring countries is assumed.

The ND-GAIN Country Index summarizes a country's vulnerability to climate change and other global challenges in combination with its readiness to improve resilience. It aims to help governments, businesses and communities better prioritize investments for a more efficient response to the immediate global challenges ahead. Higher scores are better

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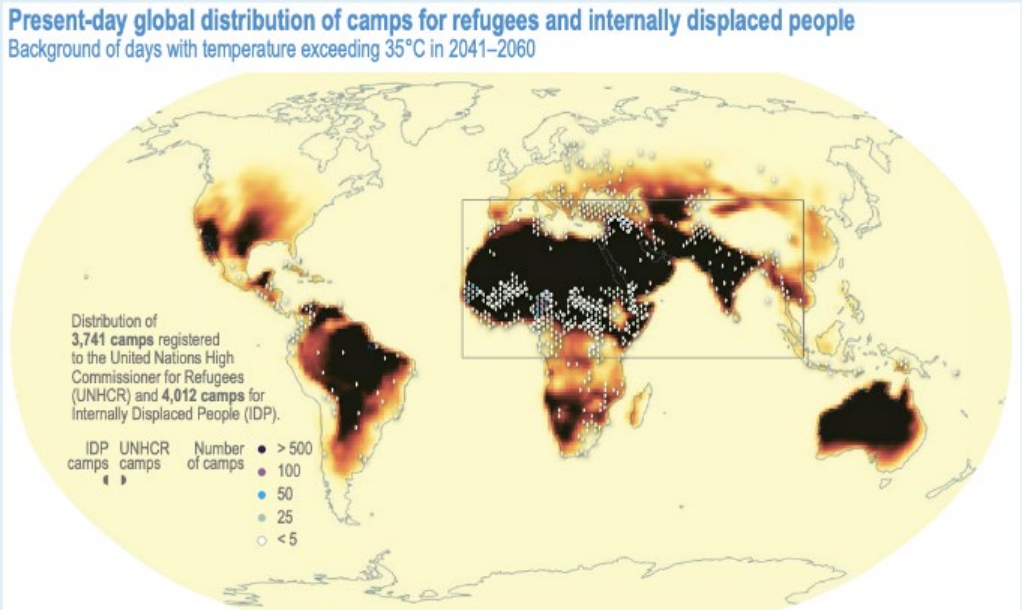
IPCC: Climate traps



- Refugee & IDP settlements concentrated in regions with high exposure to climate hazards
- Settlements and legal circumstances often protracted → barriers to move away from climate impacts

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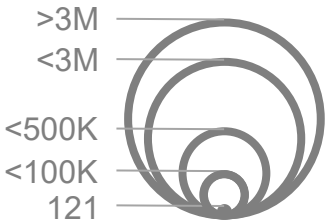
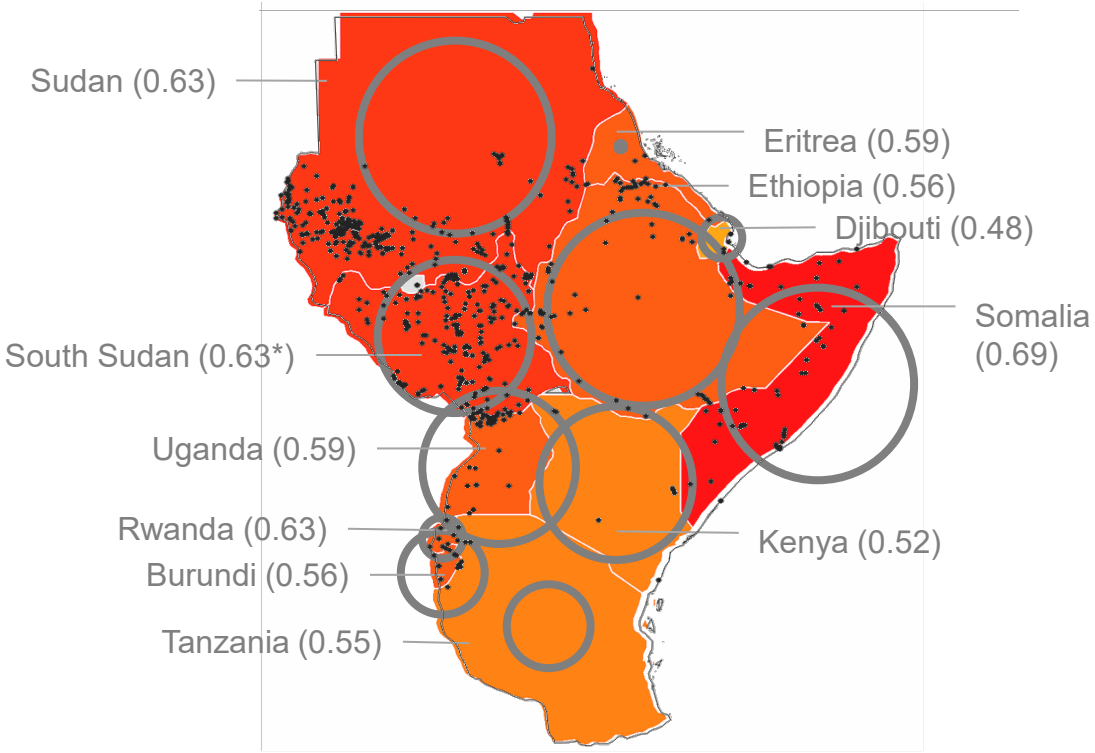
Most displaced people have either fled from or are living in highly climate-vulnerable countries

ND-GAIN Vulnerability Index



Size of the circle represents the number of displaced and stateless people



* The ND GAIN score for South Sudan is extrapolated from Sudan. Vulnerability index includes both exposure to climate change, and ability to adapt: through access to six life supporting sectors – food, water, health, ecosystem service, human habitat and infrastructure.

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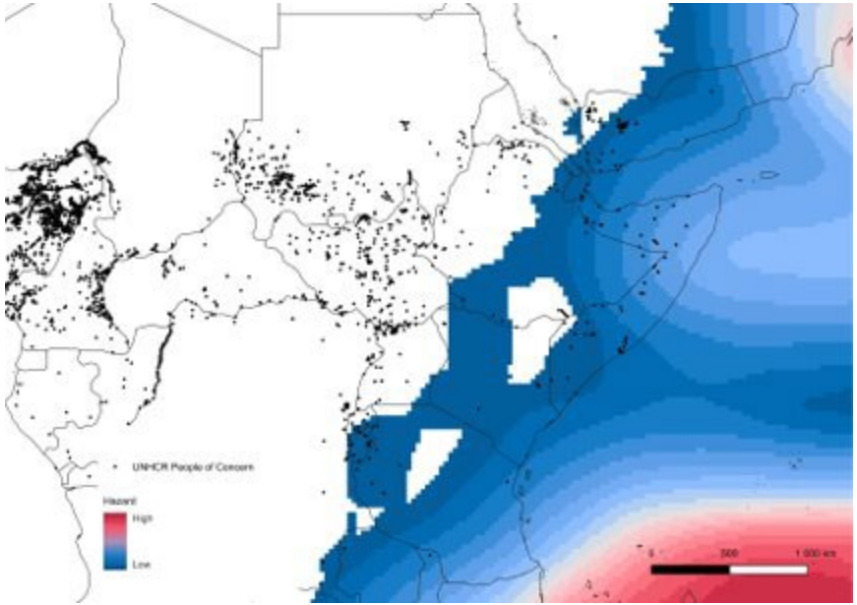
Cyclone hazard*

Baseline

Interpretation

Cyclone hazard is greatest in low lying areas of Somalia and Tanzania. Data are based on a 50 year return period. .



Conflict severity is based on clusters of the following indicators: total conflict events; total conflict fatalities; total conflict event types and sub-types and total conflict actors

Composite* heat, drought and flood hazards with conflict

Baseline

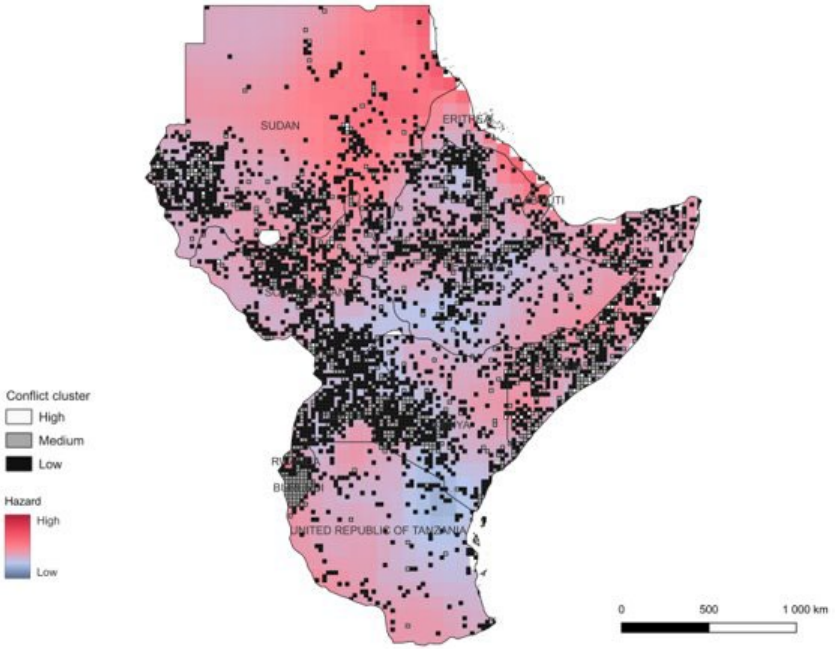


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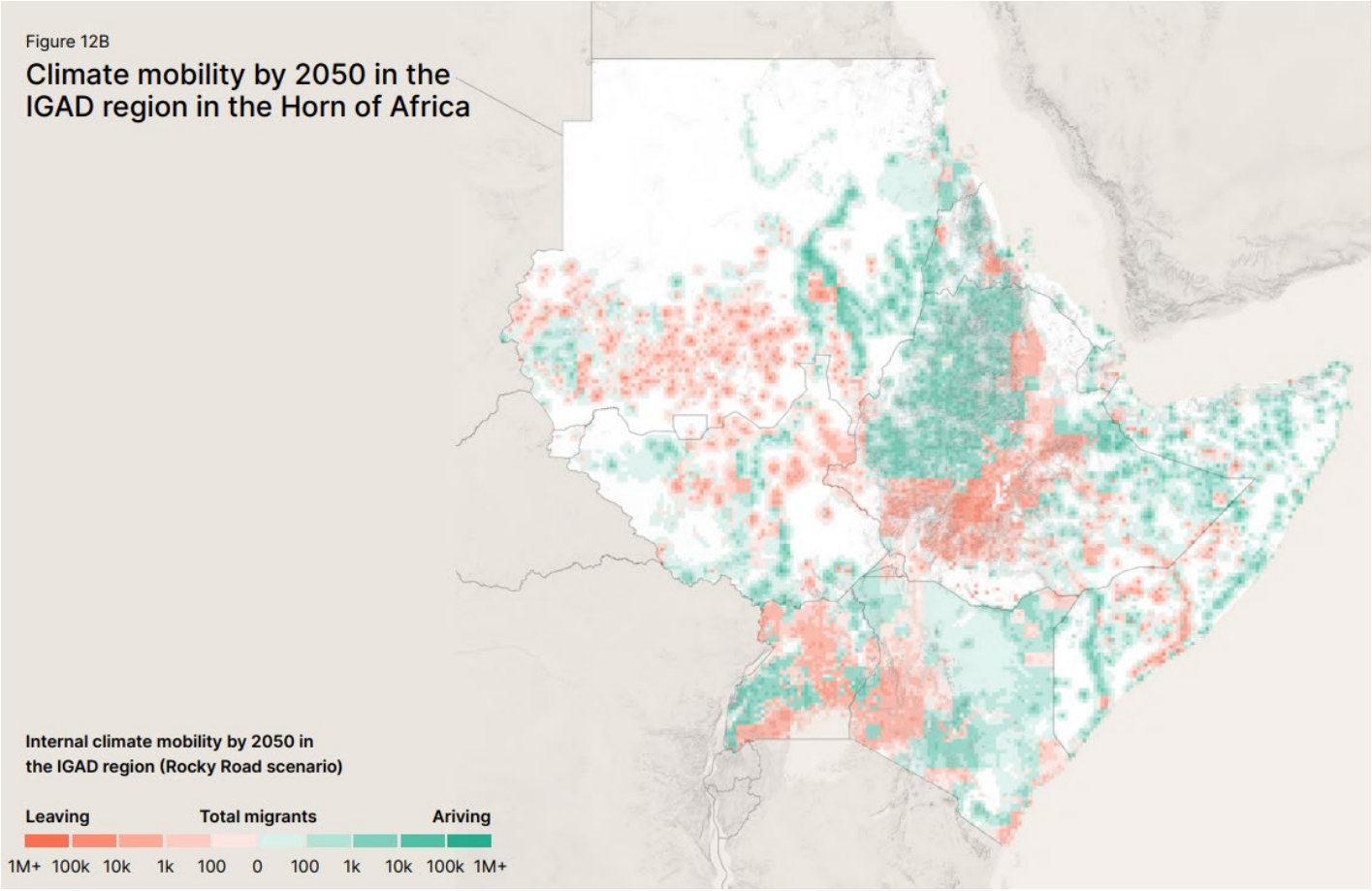
Figure 12B

Climate mobility by 2050 in the IGAD region in the Horn of Africa



Source: African Shifts report

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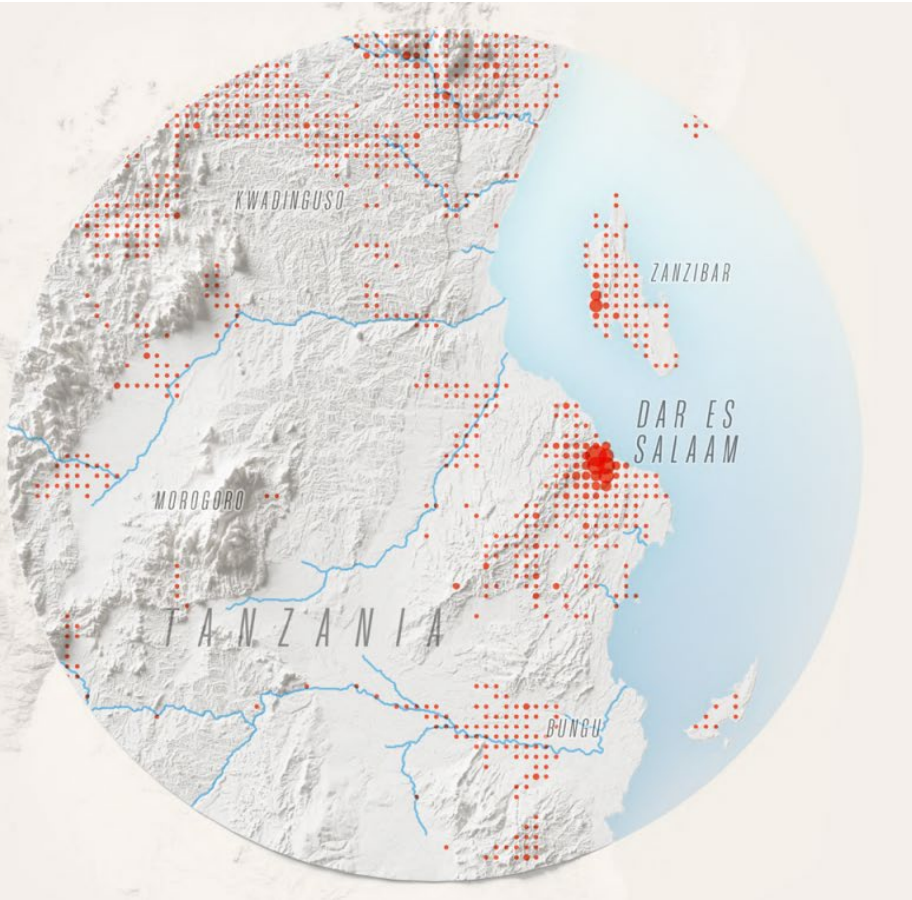
122k

About 8% of Dar es Salaam lies within the low-elevation coastal zone. This will make a significant part of the growing population in the city exposed to flood events and sea level rise. Improving risk predictions and understanding coastal risks will help the 122 thousand people projected to move out of Dar es Salaam by 2050 plan and adapt to climate change.

DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA



People leaving

Expected number of people leaving their home due to climate change by 2050 under the Rocky Road scenario (30 - 15k people)

Source: African Shifts report

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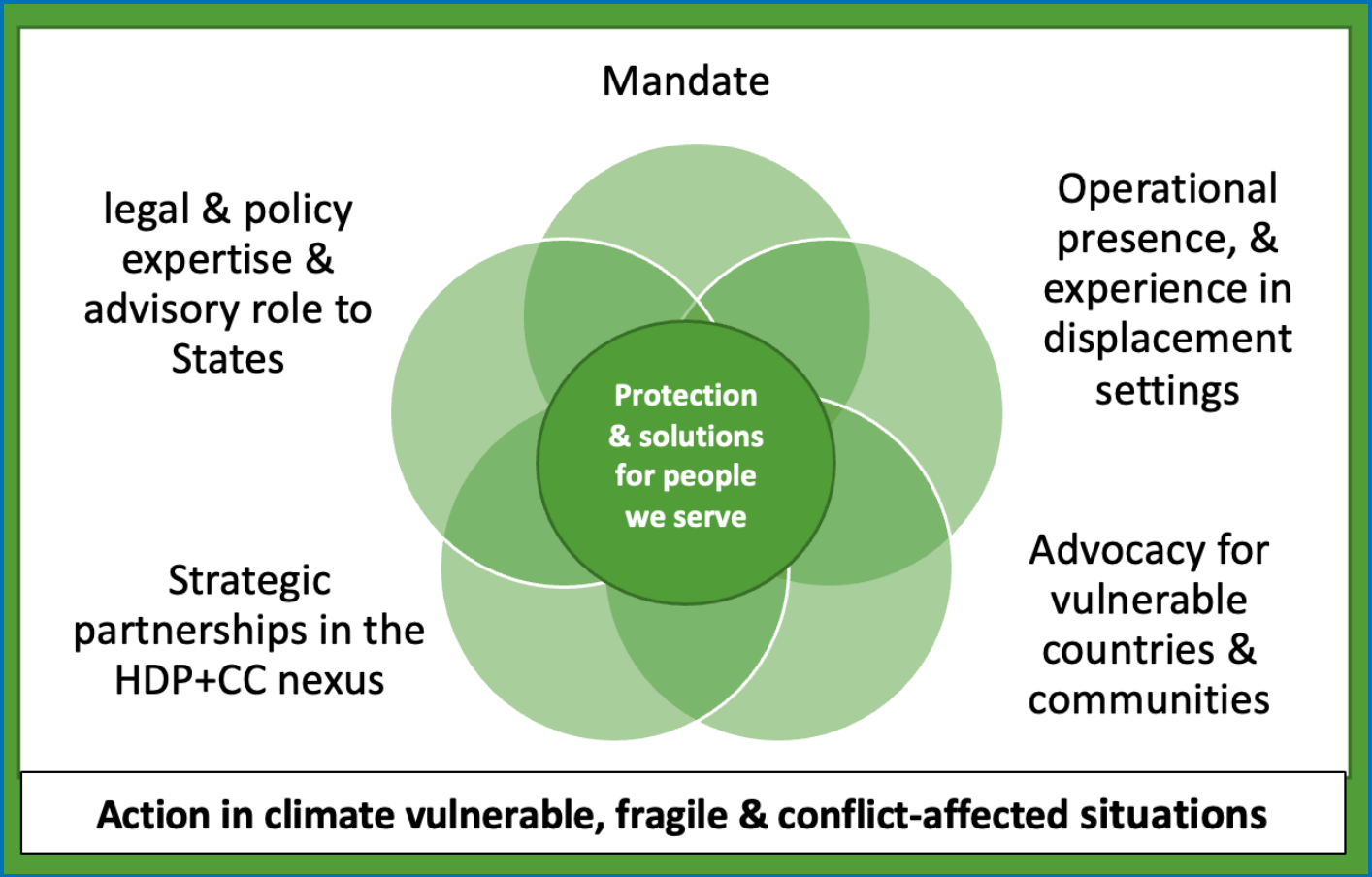

Our global niche remains centred on **our mandate, expertise, presence, partnerships and influence**

Just as climate impacts are highly context specific, so is UNHCR's specific niche in different regional and country contexts.

The common element is the "human dimension"

UNHCR's niche/added value in climate action

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Regional Plans of Action

- led by Regional Bureaux with support from HQ
- in cooperation with local stakeholders

Flagship climate projects

Refugee environmental Protection (REP) Fund

Target: $25M

The Green Financing Facility (GFF)

Target: $60M

$23.7M secured

Project Flow

Funding secured for 2023
Target: $10M

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IGAD Regional Climate Adaptation Strategy

- Eritrea, Somalia, Djibouti and Uganda haven't published a NAP yet and Ethiopia's NAP only contains contextual references to displacement
- Aim to enhance resilience capacity and resources to adapt to climate change
- Informed by the latest data, evidence and scientific research

Extent of explicit inclusion of displacement in NAPs

Climate Action & Finance Pledge

Scaled-up, accessible finance

Scale up and include refugees and their hosts within the scope of climate action **financing windows and decisions**, and **simplify access to grants, concessional finance** and **innovative sources**

Inclusive policies and plans

Include refugees in their climate action **policies and plans** as a basis for funding national priorities, including National Adaptation Plans, Nationally Determined Contributions, Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies and Early Warning Systems

Project pipeline based on good practice

Generate a **refugee-inclusive pipeline of projects and programmes** that are locally-led, gender- and conflict-sensitive, and informed by good practice to strengthen protection, preparedness and resilience.

Technical and institutional capacity

Mobilize **technical assistance and institutional capacity** to enable readiness to absorb, access and implement climate action finance, and ensure transparency and accountability to refugees, host countries and local communities.

EVIDENCE-BASED: DATA AND KNOWLEDGE

Donors & financiers
(IFIs/MDBs, development actors, private sector)

Host countries

All stakeholders
(Public, private, UN & CSO)

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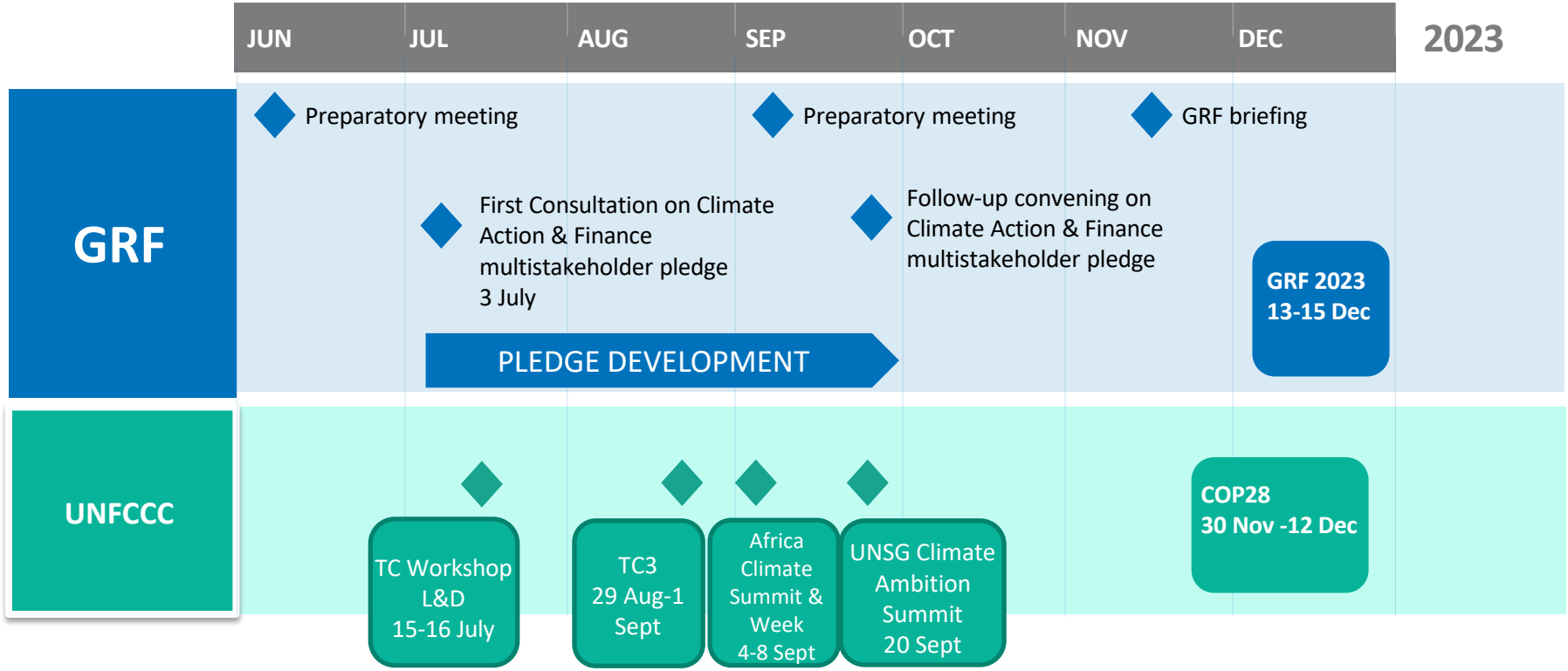
Roadmap to COP28 and the Global Refugee Forum 2023



Thank you!