

Groundswell report

September 16, 2021

In news- Recently, the World Bank released the Groundswell report.

The Groundswell Report Series-

- **The first Groundswell report, published in 2018,** used a robust and novel modeling approach to help understand the scale, trajectory, and **spatial patterns of future climate migration within countries,** with **a focus on three regions:** Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Latin America.
- Specifically, it examined how slow-onset climate change impacts on water availability and crop productivity, and sea-level rise augmented by storm surge, could affect future internal migration, modeling three plausible scenarios.
- **This second Groundswell report builds on that work, applying the same approach to three new regions:** the **Middle East and North Africa, East Asia and the Pacific, and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.**
- Qualitative analyses of climate-related mobility in countries of the Mashreq and in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are also provided.
- **The two reports' combined findings provide, for the first time, a global picture of the potential scale of internal climate migration across the six World Bank regions,** allowing for a better understanding of how projected climate change impacts, population dynamics, and development contexts shape mobility trends.
- **They also highlight the far-sighted planning needed** to meet this challenge and ensure positive and sustainable development outcomes.
- **They take a scenario-based approach** and implement a modified form of a gravity model to isolate the

projected portion of future changes in spatial population distribution that can be attributed to slow-onset climate factors up to 2050.

Key findings of the report-

- The report finds that **climate change, an increasingly potent driver of migration, could force 216 million people across six world regions to move within their countries by 2050.**
- It added that **hotspots of internal climate migration can emerge as early as 2030** and continue to spread and intensify by 2050.
- It has also found that **immediate and concerted action to reduce global emissions and support green, inclusive and resilient development,** could reduce the scale of climate migration by as much as 80 per cent.



- As per the report, climate change is a powerful driver of internal migration because of its impacts on people's livelihoods and loss of livability in highly exposed locations.
- By 2050, **sub-Saharan Africa could see as many as 86 million internal climate migrants;** east Asia and the Pacific, 49 million; **south Asia, 40 million;** north Africa, 19 million; Latin America, 17 million and eastern Europe and Central Asia, five million.