



Impact of Climate Change On Humanitarian Efforts in North Africa and the Middle East (MENA)

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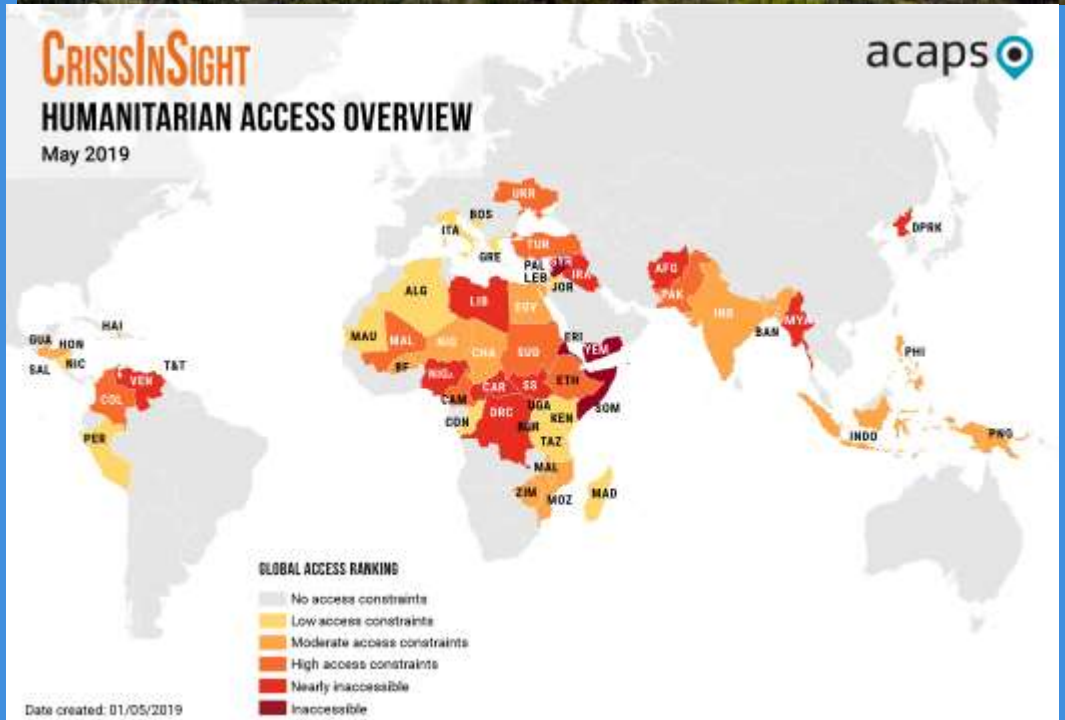
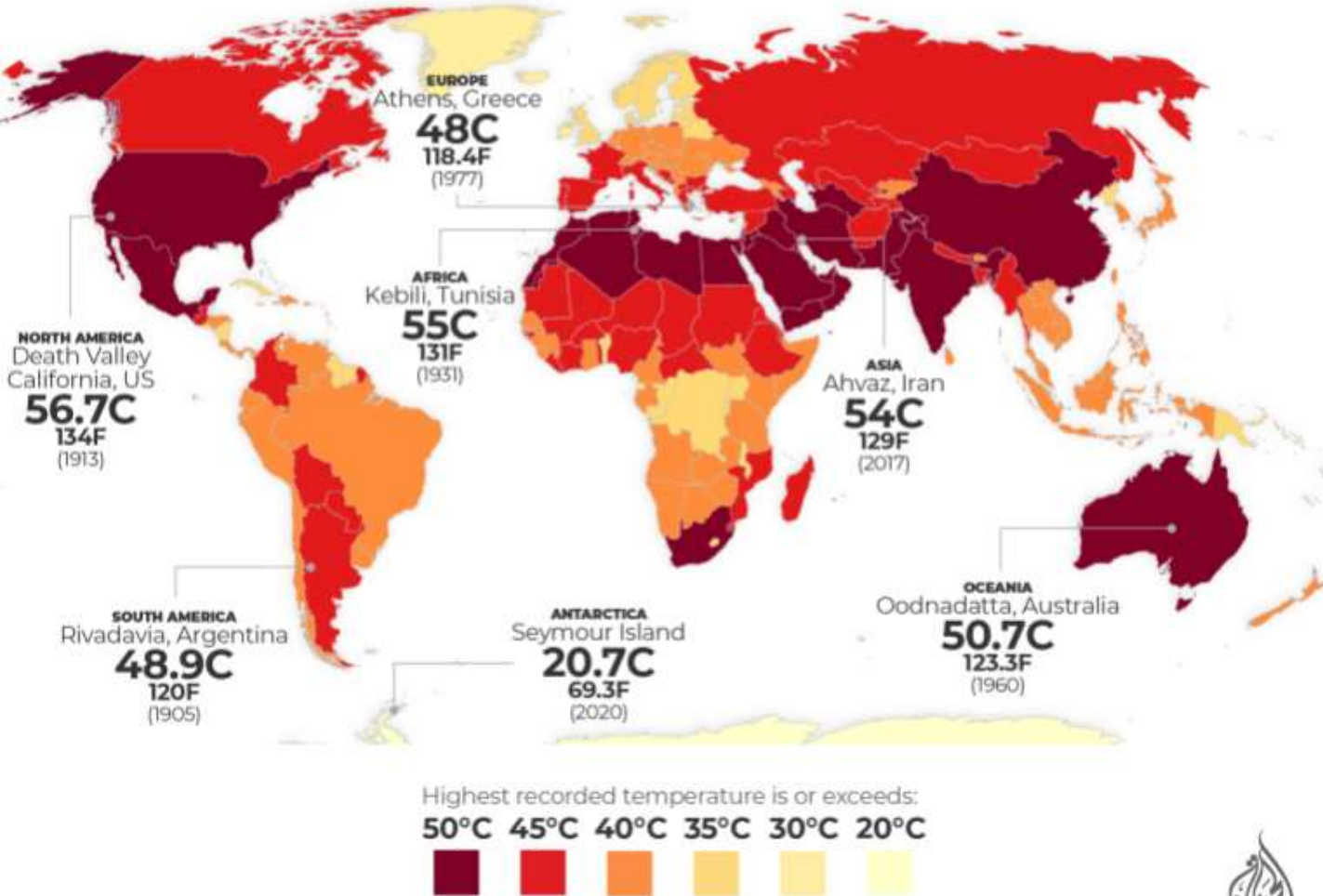
Overview

1. How Climate change and humanitarian crises are linked
2. The impact of climate change on humanitarian aid efforts specifically in the MENA region
3. What can we do?
6. Discussion & Questions

WEATHER

Hottest temperatures ever recorded

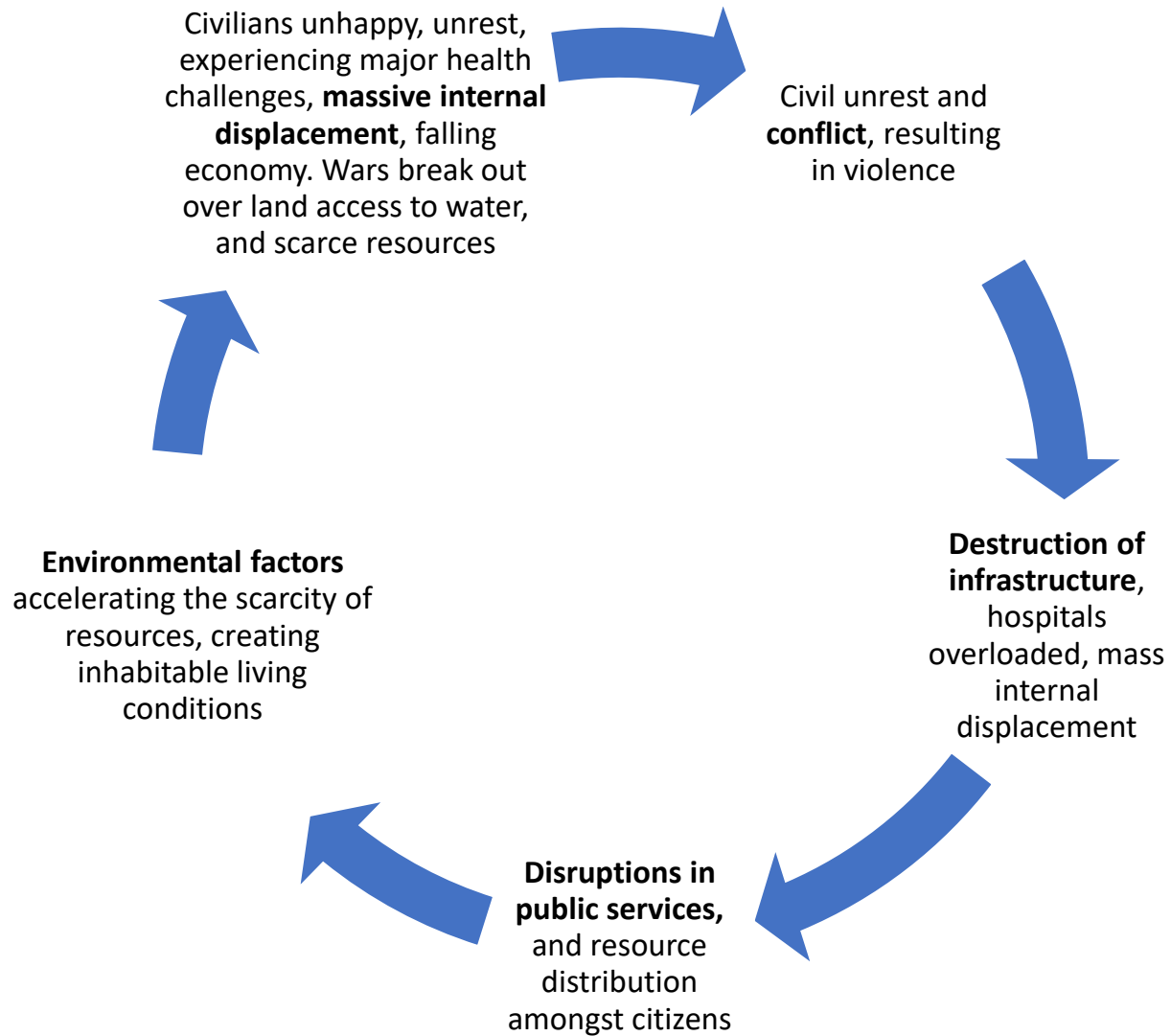
At least **23 countries** have recorded maximum temperatures of **50°C (122°F) or above**. On June 29, 2021 Canada recorded its highest temperature ever at 49.6°C (121°F).



Temperatures may vary according to local sources
 Sources: WeatherBase, Automated Surface Observing System, news agencies

Conflict and Environmental Security are not independent of one another.

To prevent conflict and sustain peace in the MENA region, we must ensure safe and predictable living conditions.



Economic Impact

- The Middle East is warming at **twice the global average**¹
- By 2050, the region will be **4 degrees Celsius warmer**¹
- Greenhouse gas emissions **have more than tripled** in the region over the last three decades²
- Over the last two decades (2000-2019), global economic costs have increased by **82 per cent** from the two decades prior (1980-1999).ⁱⁱⁱ
- People in Need of Assistance: 18 million in Afghanistan; 14.6 million in Syria; 13 million in Yemen; 15 million in Central Sahel;
- In parallel, compound needs in contexts receiving international humanitarian assistance (HRPs) have more than **tripled** since 2010, while the funding gap has risen nearly **fivefold**.

“2 degrees is a death sentence...”

Mia Mottley

Prime Minister of
Barbados

“

Earth to COP. For those who have eyes to see, for those who have ears to listen and for those who have a heart to feel, **1.5 is what we need to survive. 2 degrees is a death sentence** for the people of Antigua and Barbuda, for the people of the Maldives, for the people of Dominica and Fiji, for the people of Kenya and Mozambique, and yes, for the people of Samoa and Barbados.

”

Internal Displacement Numbers may be worse than we think

Walter Kälin,

Professor Emeritus at the
University of Bern Institute of
Public Law,

Former Representative of the
UN-Secretary General on
Human Rights of Internally
Displaced Persons

“

We know that, since 2008, some **22 million people** have had to flee each year, at least temporarily, due to sudden weather events such as storms and floods. However, we don't know how many of those seek refuge abroad. We also don't know how many come to us due to gradual changes in climate, such as droughts and rising sea levels, because **no one is going to mention drought as grounds for asylum**, as prevailing law grants protection only to war refugees and victims of political persecution.

”

What can we do? What can we aim for?

- Strengthen resilience and adoptive capacities of governments, communities and households;
- Enhance **local conflict solution mechanisms**
- **Promote transboundary agreements to identify gaps, opportunities, and commitments**, including that requires collaborations with teams from neighboring countries;
- Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
- Find ways **to increase collaboration and decrease competition between humanitarian and development actors**. With increased and transparent communication amongst NGOs, and governmental organizations, we can find ways to support and share resources with one another, tackling a common goal more efficiently.

What can we do? What can we aim for?

- Implement the commitment by developed-countries to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to **mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020** from all sources. (SDG TARGET 13.A)
- Promote mechanisms for **raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management** in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities. (SDG 13.b).
- **Above all, humanitarian action has a critical role and responsibility to go beyond emergency** response and contribute to the resilience and adaptation of those communities most devastated by the climate crisis and at risk of being left behind.
- **We must also establish effective partnerships with actors across various sectors**, and disciplines—from governments, communities, international organizations to the private sector, media, academia, science, and research.



OCHA

THANK YOU
