



INVITATION

IN THE FACE OF CONFLICT AND CLIMATE CHANGE - NEEDS AND PERSPECTIVES OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE IN MALI WHEN RAIN TURNS TO DUST

Time: Wednesday 14 October 2020, 16:30-18:00 CEST

Place: Microsoft Teams

Registration: please register [here](#) to receive a calendar invite with the link to the event in Teams

Leading up to the **Ministerial Roundtable on the Central Sahel** on the 20 October, the Danish Red Cross will, together with partners, host a side event highlighting the impact of climate change and conflict, with a focus on the needs and perspectives of internally displaced people in Mali.

As noted in the ICRC's recent publication *When Rain Turns to Dust*, **climate disruption affects conflict-affected populations across the Sahel and will do so increasingly**. The convergence of climate and conflict risks further worsens food and economic insecurity, health disparities, and limits access to essential services, while weakening the capacity of governments, institutions and societies to provide support.

The impact is wide-ranging and far-reaching; shaping new mobility patterns and access to resources on a continental scale. The humanitarian sector faces increasing challenges in ensuring affected populations' access to protection and basic humanitarian services for people displaced by conflict and climate change.

In the last 10 years we have seen an increase in the size, scope, and complexity of internal displacement. The growing trend of urban internal displacement and resulting vulnerabilities also requires further attention. At the same time the humanitarian sector is increasingly challenged in ensuring affected populations' access to protection and basic humanitarian services – both in their places of origin and during displacement.

The impact of climate change on internally displaced people in Mali is severe. Not only are people forced to displace due to violence and conflict, many also convey a deep sense of loss and disorientation, as they feel that they can no longer recognize their environment nor feel equipped to deal with the climate hazards that are an unending threat.

Based on the findings of the ICRC's publication, an ongoing study by DIIS in Mali, and operational experiences, a panel of affected persons, humanitarian, academia and State representatives discuss how the humanitarian sector, authorities and the international donor community can best support affected communities in adjusting and adapting to these cumulative risks, and ensure their continued access to protection, basic services and longer-term solutions. The panel includes representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS); Danish Red Cross; and Mali Red Cross and the Danish Embassy in Mali.

PROGRAMME

16:30-16:40 ***Welcome and introduction to aim and panel speakers***

By Interim International Director, Signe Yde-Andersen (moderator)

16:40-17:30 ***Presentations by panelists:***

“The impact of the convergence of climate risks and conflict in the Sahel”

By Mr Zakaria Maiga, Operations Coordinator for the Sahel Region, ICRC

“Mali’s crisis: internally displaced persons on the city outskirts”

By Mr. Boukary Sangare, DIIS Researcher & Mr. Fabrice Vandeputte, Country Manager, Danish Red Cross

“Needs and perspectives from affected people”

By Mr. Kola Cissé, Representative of the displaced community in Bamako

“The role of local humanitarian actors in Mali”

By Mr. Nouhoum Maiga, Head of Programmes and Projects, Mali Red Cross

“Perspectives on the Danish engagement in Mali”

By Mr. Ambassador, Rolf Holmboe, the Danish Embassy in Mali

17:30-17:50 ***Open discussion with panelists and participants***

Facilitated by Signe Yde-Andersen, Danish Red Cross

17:50-17:55 ***Recommendations to the Ministerial Roundtable on the Central Sahel***

By the panelists

17:55-18:00 ***Closing of side event***

By Signe Yde-Andersen, Danish Red Cross