INTERNAL MIGRATION IS HIGHER THAN PREVIOUSLY DOCUMENTED, BASED ON RESEARCH IN CLIMATE HOTSPOTS

In Bangladesh, for example, 2 out of 10 surveyed reported migrating internally, compared to 1 out of 10 previously reported, and compared to 1 out of 10 migrating internationally.

Rural-urban migration is most common, with more movement toward mega-cities...

...but rural-rural migration is important too, mainly due to access to environmental resources — though departure from rural areas increases vulnerability of land to climate events...

...and people tend to move multiple times in their lives.

MOBILITY IS A COMMON FEATURE OF SOCIETY

PEOPLE MOVE FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS

ECONOMIC REASONS, like employment, which over 80% of migrants in 4 deltas cite as the main reason for migration...

...and SOCIAL REASONS, like education, family responsibilities and changing aspirations...

but ENVIRONMENTAL REASONS, like climate change, exacerbate existing pressures, and can act as a tipping point.

Remittances lead to higher household incomes which are spent on food, health and education.

BUT NOT EVERYONE BENEFITS EQUALLY

Women left behind often experience greater burdens of responsibility, and mobility for some can lead to others being trapped.

MIGRATION CAN SUPPORT RESILIENCE, BUT NOT ALWAYS, AND NOT FOR EVERYONE

THE BOTTOM LINE?

Policies need to recognize the scale of internal migration, and support efforts to enhance its contribution to the attainment of the SDGs, especially:

- Food
- Health
- Education
- Economic

DATA IS BASED ON EMERGING RESULTS FROM QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE RESEARCH (INCLUDING EXTENSIVE HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS, FOCUS GROUPS, INTERVIEWS AND LIFE HISTORIES) IN 7 COUNTRIES CONDUCTED THROUGH THE COLLABORATIVE ADAPTATION RESEARCH INITIATIVE IN AFRICA AND ASIA (CARIAA), A JOINT INITIATIVE OF THE UK’S DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CANADA’S INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE. RESEARCH RESULTS ARE FROM THREE CLIMATE CHANGE HOTSPOTS, INCLUDING SEMI ARID REGIONS, DELTAS, AND GLACIER-FED RIVER BASINS. FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT HTTPS://CARIAA.NET.