

Call for Applications



Regional Programs Energy Security and Climate Change
Middle East and North Africa (KAS – REMENA)
and Sub-Saharan Africa

KAS African Climate Perspectives on Migration

July 01 to July 02, 2019
Rabat, Morocco

Program Overview

Organizer:	Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Regional Programs Energy Security and Climate Change Middle East and North Africa (KAS - REMENA), based in Rabat, Morocco and Sub-Saharan Africa, based in Yaoundé, Cameroon Strategic Partner: International Organization for Migration (IOM), based in Rabat, Morocco
Content:	Debate over current state, future trends, and potential challenges of migration in the context of climate change in Africa
Application Deadline:	March 31, 2019, 12:00 pm, time zone: WEST
Application Form:	Online Application KAS African Climate Perspectives on Migration
Eligibility:	This conference is open to researchers, policy makers, academic and civil society activists from North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Europe
Venue:	July 01 to July 02, 2019, Rabat - Morocco
Cost:	All the participation costs (round trip economic flight ticket, hotel and food, visa fees) for the conference will be covered for the selected candidates by the organizers

Aware of the necessity to joint national and regional efforts to address displacement and human mobility challenges in Africa associated with climate change and environmental disequilibrium, the Regional Programs Energy Security and Climate Change Middle East and North Africa of Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung (KAS – REMENA) and Sub-Saharan Africa organize jointly a Regional Conference “KAS African Climate Perspectives on Migration”, from July 01 to July 02, 2019, Rabat – Morocco.

Context:

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Migration movements on the African continent are often perceived as a result of armed conflicts or lack of economic perspectives, little attention is paid to migration movements that are directly or indirectly linked to climate change. However, droughts, water shortages or flooding of islands and coastal areas as a consequence of global warming can lead to entire regions becoming uninhabitable in the medium term. In addition to internal migration, transnational migration of individuals and groups from their original habitats is also expected.

Studies estimate that climate change could possibly led to migration of 85 million people in Sub-Sahara Africa by 2050, and North Africa will have to partially deal with this demographic shift. However, reliable statements on the expected dimension are lacking. The challenges are manifold: Due to the absence of a legal basis for environmental migrants in current international jurisprudence, there is currently no legal basis for the recognition of this group of persons. Furthermore, environmental migration cannot be reduced to a single cause, as the interaction of many factors is decisive for the decision to migrate. These can include economic reasons triggered by environmental change as well as conflicts or wars that originate from the unequal distribution of resources. Whether migration will be the response to sudden or creeping environmental changes will in turn have a significant impact on the number of migrants within a given period of time.

In addition, African countries experience an unprecedented population growth. While this demographic development can create new opportunities, it might also shorten available resources in rural areas which might led to enhanced migration movements towards cities. However, while African megacities are expanding, they hardly have the infrastructure to accommodate all new arrivals.

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung aims to address migration under the auspices of climate change in all its dimensions. Therefore, this conference aims at providing a platform for experts from Africa and Europe to exchange knowledge and to combine synergies for finding solutions to this global challenge.

Themes:

Assessing the current and future impacts of environmental and climate change on migration trends in Africa as well as related challenges, the attending experts along with the invited policy and decision makers from Africa and Europe will contribute their expertise in four main themes:

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1. Environmental migration in Africa: Current State and Challenges.
2. What effects does population growth in Africa have on the availability of resources? How is the scarcity of resources in rural areas and population growth in cities addressed politically?
3. Can environmentally induced migration become a security risk for Africa? How do climate change-related changes in Africa affect existing conflicts and the stability of the region?
4. Which political initiatives and mechanisms are needed to prevent environmentally induced migration? How can Africa and Europe join efforts in putting these into practice?

Objectives:

This two day conference will bring together experts, policy makers and academics from North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa and Europe to exchange knowledge, and to discuss and answer the four questions above. The aim is to generate ideas and recommendations that will be fused in a position paper document to be published as a conference's proceeding.

Structure:

This is a conference that welcomes actors and players from academic, governmental and civil society of the fields in the three main arrangements:

1. Panel Discussions (PD)
2. Round Table (RT) discussions; and
3. Working Group (WG) sessions.

Besides the plenary speeches, there will be four working group sessions. Each working group will focus on one of the four questions highlighted above. Toward the last day of the meeting, each working group will present the outcomes and recommendations generated from their working group's discussions. These recommendations will be collected and integrated and later on be published as a conference's proceeding by the organizers. It will be disseminated to various national and international relevant stakeholders.

Outputs: On the last day of the conference, each working group will have to submit a synthetic position paper (3 pages) with recommendations.

Schedule and Venue: The conference will be held in Morocco's capital city of Rabat. It will start on the evening of June 30 with a welcome dinner of all participants and finish on the evening of July 02 with a farewell dinner. Participants should arrive on June 30 and leave on July 03, 2019.

Working Languages: The main working language will be English, interpretation to French will be provided.

Costs: The organizers will cover all expenses related to the participation of the event. This includes:

Transportation:

Round trip economy flight ticket for international participants; for national participants travel reimbursement will be delivered under reception of their travel tickets and original invoices.

Accommodation & Meals:

Both, hotel and meals will be provided to participants during the period of the meeting.

How to participate: Interested participants should submit their application using the following online application form:

[Online Application KAS African Climate Perspectives on Migration](#)

Please make sure to have the following information/documents at hand:

1. Short biography (150 words maximum);
2. Updated short CV (3 pages maximum);
3. Short abstract of your contribution to the conference (200 words maximum); and
4. Passport data page.

Further Information: For further inquiry do not hesitate to contact the organizers at the email address: info.remena@kas.de

The event will be accompanied by photographs. By registering, participants declare their consent that the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Regional Programs Energy Security and Climate Change Middle East and North Africa (KAS – REMENA) and Sub-Saharan Africa will use the photos taken before, during or after the event for press and public relations purposes.