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Environmental Migration: Evidence and Implications

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Environmentally Induced Migrants: Speculations?

- Today: 24 million environmentally induced migrants worldwide (UNHCR, 2002).
- By 2010: 50 million (Myers, 2005)
- After 2050: Up to 700 million environmental migrants (Christian Aid, 2007)

EACH



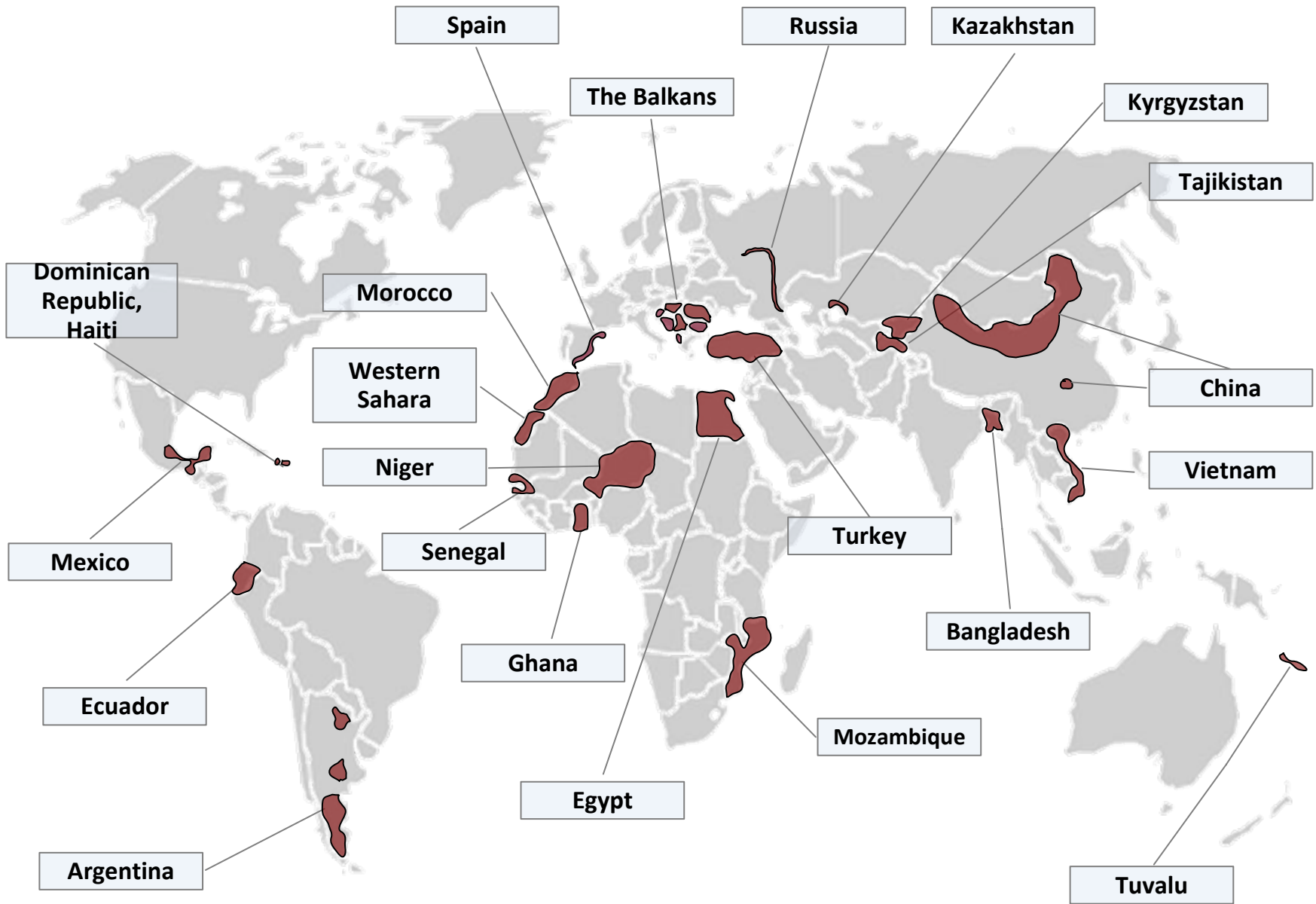
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**Environmental Change and Forced Migration
Scenarios**

To discover and describe the causes of migration in relation to environmental degradation/change and their association with other social, political and economic phenomena.



IOM International Organization for Migration



Main outcomes

- Disasters and “development” projects can be a direct cause.
- Economic stressors: mechanism through which environmental degradation leads to migration.
- Land tenure matters.
- Environmental stressors: relocation and resettlement of affected populations.
- Migration as an adaptation strategy: worst off people find difficulties.
- Lack of sufficient aid or capability to maintain or establish alternative livelihood options can lead to migration.
- Environmental stressors: vulnerability to human trafficking.

Win-Win situation?

- Plan “with” rather than plan “for”.....
- “Prevent” earlier rather than “solve” later.....

Future

- Reliable databases (ORGANISED co-operation with local governments)
 - International and internal migration
 - Environmental phenomena
- Extended field visits (ORGANISED co-operation with local governments, partners, NGOs, research institutes, international organisations (e.g. local offices of UNHCR))

Let's discuss more.....