

# WORLD HUMANITARIAN DATA AND TRENDS 2017

## GLOBAL LANDSCAPE



OCHA

Conflicts and natural disasters have been the main drivers of humanitarian need. They are often treated as discrete events, with little analysis of the underlying causes and warning signs. Today, the humanitarian landscape is changing more rapidly than ever. Global risks are recognized as directly linked to humanitarian crises. They can increase the frequency and intensity of shocks and make people more vulnerable, preventing them from building the resilience

CONTINUES OVERLEAF

### Water security

**BASELINE:** Water security impacts people of all ages and genders, but women and girls are disproportionately affected due to their role in water collection. Globally, women and girls spend up to 200 million hours a day collecting water. This reduces time spent on other tasks, including education.

BY 2025,  
GLOBAL POPULATION  
LIVING WITH

Absolute  
water scarcity

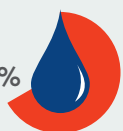


1.8 billion

**PROJECTION:** An estimated 1.8 billion people will live in countries or regions suffering absolute water scarcity, and two thirds of the world's population will live with water stress conditions by 2025.

Water stress  
conditions

66%



### Climate change

**BASELINE:** In 2016, the average yearly global temperature record rose to 1.1°C above pre-industrial levels. New records reached in 2016 include 30 inches (76.2 cm) of rain in one week in Louisiana, United States, and a new heat record of 51°C (124°F) in Rajasthan, India.

NEW RECORDS

30 inches  
76.2 cm

Rainfall in one week



LOUISIANA  
UNITED STATES



51°C  
124°F  
Heat

RAJASTHAN  
INDIA

**PROJECTION:** Limiting global temperature increases to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change. The cost of adapting to climate change in developing countries alone could range from \$140 billion to \$300 billion per year in 2030, and between \$280 billion and \$500 billion per year in 2050.

### Migration

**BASELINE:** A total of 7,700 migrants died globally in 2016. Of these, 5,098 lost their lives in the Mediterranean. Migrant arrivals in Europe, which totalled 363,348 in 2016, were split almost evenly between Greece and Italy, with a smaller number of migrants arriving in Cyprus, Malta and Spain.

5,098  
DIED IN THE  
MEDITERRANEAN

7,700  
DIED  
GLOBALLY



**PROJECTION:** Economic and demographic asymmetries between countries are to remain key drivers of international migration. Between 2015 and 2050, the top net receivers of international migrants (more than 100,000 annually) are projected to be Australia, Canada, Germany, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States. The countries projected to be net senders of more than 100,000 migrants annually include Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia and Pakistan.

### Food security

**BASELINE:** In 2016, the number of undernourished people increased to 815 million from 777 million in 2015. Around the world, 108 million people experienced crisis-level food insecurity or worse, which represents a 35 per cent increase from 2015, when the figure was 80 million.

**PROJECTION:** By 2050, global food demand is projected to increase by at least 60 per cent above 2006 levels, driven by population, income growth and rapid urbanization. Population growth is expected to be concentrated in regions with the highest prevalence of undernourishment and high vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.

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necessary to cope with those shocks. In some cases, this vulnerability is exacerbated by the absence of political solutions to conflicts. Today's protracted and recurrent crises are a direct result of these factors. As demonstrated by the outcomes of the World Humanitarian Summit and the focus of the Sustainable Development Goals, there is a renewed emphasis on better understanding the drivers of crises and moving towards a model that not only ensures rapid and reliable humanitarian response, but also focuses on ensuring that sustainable development reaches the most fragile and vulnerable contexts.

## Health

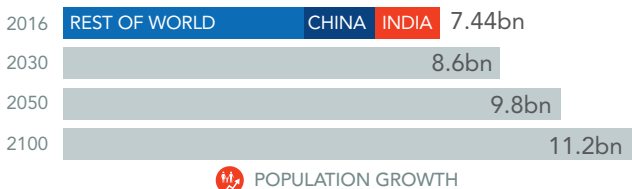
**BASELINE:** Since 1988, polio cases have decreased by more than 99 per cent, from an estimated 350,000 cases to 37 reported cases in 2016, primarily in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan. Polio is transmitted person-to-person, meaning that as long as a single person remains infected, all others are at risk. There is no cure; polio can only be prevented.



**PROJECTION:** Polio eradication works when strategies are fully implemented. The eradication of polio is projected to save at least \$50 billion between 1988 and 2035, mostly in low-income countries. However, if polio is left unchecked, there could be as many as 200,000 new cases of polio every year globally within 10 years.

## Population

**BASELINE:** In 2016, the global population was 7.44 billion. Twenty-six per cent of these people are between the ages of 0 and 14. China remains the world's largest country by population, with 1.4 billion people, followed by India, with 1.3 billion people.



**PROJECTION:** The global population is projected to increase by more than 1 billion people over the next 13 years, reaching 8.6 billion in 2030, 9.8 billion in 2050 and 11.2 billion by 2100. China and India currently have similar population sizes, but the population of India is expected to surpass the population of China by 2024.

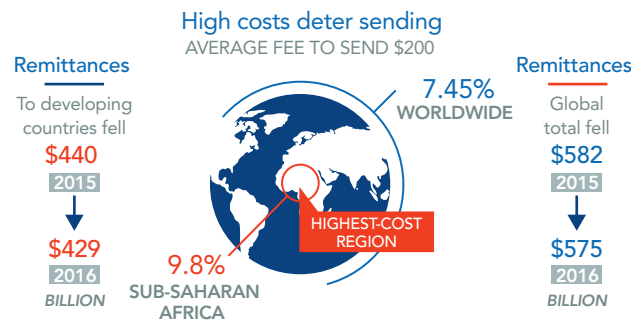
## Urbanization

**BASELINE:** In 2016, an estimated 54.5 per cent of the world's population lived in urban settlements. Of the world's 31 megacities (cities with 10 million inhabitants or more), 24 are located in the less developed regions. China had six megacities in 2016, while India had five.

**PROJECTION:** By 2030, urban areas are projected to house 60 per cent of the global population, and one in every three people will live in cities with at least half a million inhabitants. Ten cities are projected to become megacities between 2016 and 2030, all of which are located in developing countries.

## Diaspora

**BASELINE:** In 2016, remittances to developing countries fell for the second consecutive year—a trend not seen in three decades. Remittances to developing countries in 2016 were \$429 billion, a decline from the \$440 billion recorded in 2015. Global remittances totalled \$575 billion, a contraction from \$582 billion in 2015.



**PROJECTION:** Remittances are a critical income source for populations in developing countries. However, migrants may be deterred from remitting because of the high transaction cost of sending money internationally. Worldwide, the average cost of sending \$200 is 7.45 per cent, but in sub-Saharan Africa, the average fee is 9.8 per cent, making it the highest-cost region. These figures far exceed the Sustainable Development Goal of reducing the cost of remittance transactions to less than 3 per cent by 2030.

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