
EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND CLIMATE REFUGEE CRISIS

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“The alien was to be protected, not because he was a member of one’s family, clan or religious community, but because he was a human being. In the alien, therefore, man discovered the idea of humanity.”

- Anonymous

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Human race has undergone dynamic evolution and has surpassed progress and achievement in all spheres. In the quest and haste to achieve such remarkable achievements, mankind has threatened the sustainability of the earth. The supposed growth and development bring huge prosperity in terms of infrastructure, transport and communication, but at the same time it fails to address the multi-dimensional needs of the society as a whole. Development is a holistic concept and it has to be compatible with all the aspects of human development. It has various angles such as culture, society, ecology and political participation. Sustainable development can be achieved only by having a holistic vision regarding the overall development of the human race. Every individual is entitled to a life of freedom and dignity. The conceptualisation of the earlier mentioned term is subjective, and its efficacy changes with time and is different for different people of the world.¹

At its core, climate change is a complex phenomenon involving significant and long-lasting alterations in Earth’s climate system that unfold over periods spanning from decades to millions of years. It involves changes in temperature, rainfall, and various other weather-related conditions, that can affect ecosystems worldwide, weather patterns and sea levels. Climate change is among the most urgent global issues of the 21st century, affecting the environment, society, and the economy on many levels. It involves long-term and substantial shifts in the Earth's climate, mainly caused by human actions that emit greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Gases like carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O) trap solar heat, resulting in an increase in global temperatures, a process widely known as global warming.²

The grievous problem of climate change, commonly known as 'global warming,' is largely the result of human activities such as burning fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas), deforestation, and industrial operations. These actions emit greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane (CH₄), which trap solar heat in the atmosphere, leading to rising global temperatures, a process known as the 'greenhouse effect.' The consequences are far-reaching, including more intense and frequent extreme weather events (such as hurricanes, heatwaves, and droughts), melting ice caps, rising sea levels, changes in ecosystems and wildlife, and challenges to food and water resources. Combating climate change calls for coordinated global action to cut greenhouse gas emissions, shift to sustainable energy, and adapt to the changes already taking place.³

¹ Satish C. Shastri, *Environmental Law* 22 (Eastern Book Company, Lucknow, 5th edn., 2015).

² Ibid

³ S.R. Myneni, *Law of Biodiversity Protection* 34 (New Era Law Publication, 1st edn., 2020).

Man, and his natural environment have always coexisted with each other. The issue of resource depletion and degradation of the environment and ecosystem began with the onset of industrialisation. The countries were developing and undergoing a social change.⁴ As human aspirations for a higher quality of life and improved living standards intensified throughout the mid-20th century, these development ambitions brought about significant environmental consequences. For instance, annual carbon dioxide emissions more than doubled between 1960 and 1988. Similarly, tropical deforestation surged by 2015, nearly half of the planet's mature tropical forests had been lost, with approximately 20 % of that destruction occurring between 1960 and 1990.⁵

Despite these mounting ecological pressures, widespread environmental regulation lagged behind. It wasn't until dramatic events in the 1960s, such as the London smog and polluted rivers catching fire in the U.S., that public alarm spurred the creation of landmark institutions like the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1970. Meanwhile, unchecked economic expansion and consumerism drove massive increases in plastic production from just 2 million tonnes in 1950 to over 390 million tonnes by 2021, alongside mounting land degradation. Today, soil degradation affects around 15 % of Earth's land area, roughly 2 billion hectares, an area larger than the combined expanse of the U.S. and Mexico. These intertwined challenges ranging from soaring emissions and plastic pollution to deforestation and degraded lands, have made environmental deterioration and resultant climate disruption inevitable. And with wildlife populations already down by about 68 % since 1970, myriad climate-linked problems have since echoed around the globe.⁶

The concept of sustainable development did not become popular until the late 1980s. As global human activities have drastically altered the environment, through fossil fuel consumption, deforestation, and intensified land use, these pressures have fuelled global warming and its harmful consequences. This growing awareness has, over time, catalysed a societal shift toward the pursuit of sustainable, enduring transformation. Population explosion, the ever-increasing consumerism, advancement in human lifestyle, industrial production, nuclear exploitation, infrastructure development and so on, led to the manifestation of a continuing environmental crisis. The resultant climate change which was the potential result of the exploitation done to nature, came as an evident result.

1.2 UNDERSTANDING THE GLOBAL IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is already causing widespread, significant damage to ecosystems, economies, and communities around the world. From 1970 to 2016, wildlife populations decreased by an average of 68%, illustrating the steep ecological decline underway. In the oceans, 96% of global marine areas endured extreme heatwaves in 2023, the most intense and prolonged ever recorded, severely disrupting marine ecosystems, coral reefs, and coastal economies. Economically, climate-related damages are rising sharply. Direct losses from extreme weather, climate, and water events averaged over US \$330 billion per year between 2015 and 2021. By mid-century, global income losses are projected to reach US \$38 trillion annually, equivalent to nearly a 19%

⁴ Ibid

⁵ Jane McAdam, *Climate Change, Forced Migration, and International Law* 42 (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2012).

⁶ Ibid

reduction in average global incomes unless urgent mitigation steps are taken.⁷

Increasing global temperatures are leading to more intense and frequent heatwaves, storms, and floods. These extreme weather events disrupt farming, harm infrastructure, and pose serious health risks, especially in regions that are most vulnerable. The melting of glaciers and polar ice sheets leads to higher sea levels, putting coastal cities and low-lying countries at serious risk of flooding, displacement, and the loss of livelihoods. Biodiversity is also at risk, as altered habitats force species to migrate or face extinction. Additionally, climate change is aggravating global inequality, disproportionately affecting poorer nations and marginalized groups who have fewer resources to adapt to its consequences. Tackling climate change demands unified global efforts to minimize its effects and ensure a sustainable future for coming generations. Its wide-ranging and complex consequences affect the environment, human societies, and economies, resulting in both direct and indirect impacts.⁸ Climate change has far-reaching and multifaceted impacts on the environment, human societies, and economies, invariably leading to various direct and indirect effects.

1.3 THE LINK BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE AND CONFLICT: A GROWING CONCERN OF CLIMATE REFUGEES

“According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), a UN agency mandated to aid and protect refugees, forcibly displaced communities, and stateless peoples, in the past 10 years, the number of people forcibly displaced has doubled to almost 80 million people at the end of 2019, with fewer and fewer of those who flee being able to return home. Among them, almost 35 million are refugees, asylum seekers and others displaced outside their country, while the remaining 45 million are internally displaced.”⁹

Climate change is an inevitable occurrence, which will change and multiply in the coming future. The aggravation of this change by human induced factors intensifies the wrath of climate change. The human activities and various forms have contributed a lot to the intensification of climate change.¹⁰ Ranging from burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, faulty land use and unsustainable agriculture practices and so on, have all contributed to the worsened climate change. Climate change has various impacts as discussed above. The latent and patent effects are many. Out of these, conflict rising out of the climate crisis, is intensifying over the years. Growing numbers of individuals are compelled to relocate their home, contributing to the problem of displacement world over. The problem of influx of climate refugees, their maintenance and right to the share of limited resources, all are debatable issues.

“In 2023, the global average temperature was approximately 1.36 °C higher than the average during the late 19th-century preindustrial period (1850–1900). The ten most recent years have been the warmest on record according to NASA, 2024. According to estimates by 2100, the

⁷ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), *Legal Considerations Regarding Claims for International Protection Made in the Context of the Adverse Effects of Climate Change and Disasters*, Geneva, 2020.

⁸ P. S. Jaswal & Nishtha Jaswal, *Environmental Law* 54 (Allahabad Law Agency, Haryana, 3rd edn., 2011).

⁹ Jane McAdam, “Swimming Against the Tide: Why a Climate Change Displacement Treaty Is Not the Answer”, 23(1) *International Journal of Refugee Law* 5 (2011).

¹⁰ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), *Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* ([Core Writing Team, H. Lee & J. Romero (eds.), 1–34, Geneva, Switz.: IPCC 2023.

global average temperature could increase by 1.1–5.4 °C compared to today, depending on the level of mitigation efforts. Without actions to curb GHG emissions, global temperatures could rise by 3.28 °C (2.46–4.10 °C) above pre-industrial levels by 2100. Furthermore, sea levels are projected to increase by 573 mm (474–671 mm) above the 2021 mean due to land ice melting. Adhering to COP26 emission regulations would limit the temperature increase to an average of 1.88 °C (1.43–2.33 °C), although this still exceeds the 1.5 °C target set by the 2015 Paris Agreement.”¹¹

Climate change is a major global concern because of its serious threat to both humanity and the planet. The outcome of climate change has threat to humanity as it has various adverse outcomes such as environmental degradation, economic inequality between countries, increase of poverty and diseases, deterioration in health, reduction in life expectancy, decreasing mortality and last but not the least, military conflict and displacement. Throughout history, rearrangements in human settlement patterns have been a companion of development.¹²It has remained imprinted in the history of developing countries. The magnitude of involuntary population displacements and resettlement in developing countries has increased rapidly owing to climate change. In 2024, extreme weather disasters triggered by climate change led to 45.8 million internal displacements, nearly double the annual average over the last decade. By year-end, the total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) globally reached 83.4 million, with 9.8 million displaced specifically by disasters, a 29% increase from 2023. Weather-related events intensified by climate change accounted for 99.5% of all disaster displacements in 2024.¹³

The process of involuntary displacement and relocation caused by development programmes, the victims of natural calamities such as hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes etc, the displaced population due to desertification, glacier melts, increased environmental pollution, have all been the victims of displacement. The environmental or ecological refugees or climate refugees are compelled to leave behind all their belongings and move away from their usual homes, and move to far off places in order to find suitable habitats for themselves. The climate refugees are affected by the unstoppable advance of globalization and capitalism and in the wake of increasing climate change and depleted resources they are often forced to confront basic survival and health support due to environmental degradation. The climate refugees are the victims of unsustainable paths taken by the developed and the developing countries. Global industrialization, mass consumption, and fossil fuel use which are the central pillars of globalization, have accelerated climate change, directly creating the environmental conditions (floods, droughts, sea level rise) forcing people to migrate. Developed economies, historically responsible for most greenhouse gas emissions, benefit the most from globalization, while developing nations bear the brunt and their citizens become climate refugees. There often forced to seek asylum as refugees in various countries.¹⁴

¹¹ Jeremy Ko , Harry F. Lee , ‘Chun Kai Leung War and warming: The effects of climate change on military conflicts in developing countries (1995–2020)’ (2024) 3(4)Innovation And Green Development <<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2949753124000523> > accessed on 24 december 2025.

¹² Ibid

¹³ Dr. V T Patil & Dr. P R Trivedi, *Refugees and Human Rights* 122 (Authorspress, 1st edn, 2000).

¹⁴ Ibid

The forced migration imposed on the climate refugees make them the poor and most vulnerable section with no remedy available for them. The breakdown of ecological integrity, which is essential for human health, survival, and the proper functioning of ecosystems poses compelling circumstances for the population to disperse and become refugees. The issue of climate change may not be directly responsible for the forced displacement of the people, but it has a very obvious nexus with movement of people from their domestic habitat. The movement as refugees to other places and habitats, often remains unaddressed at the international as well as domestic level.¹⁵

1.4 INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE RECOGNITION OF CLIMATE REFUGEES

The international framework for the safety of the refugees under the public international law encompasses various treaties, principles and institutional mechanisms that collectively work to uphold the refugee rights all over the world. The refugee crisis is aggravating at a very fast pace and the complexities of the refugee laws further aggravate the situation. The legal framework for refugees, aims to ensure the security and self-esteem of refugees. At the international level, the Refugee Convention, 1951 and the protocol of 1967, are the foundational basis of the recognition and move towards refugees' rights and protection. The United Nations high commissioner for refugees (UNHCR), plays an essential role in the implementation of the framework to safeguard the refugees globally according to the established legal norms and principles.

The 1951 Refugee Convention, or Geneva Convention, is a multilateral treaty established by the United Nations that defines who qualifies as a refugee and outlines the rights of those granted asylum, as well as the obligations of the countries offering asylum. It provides the internationally accepted definition of a refugee and details the legal protections, rights, and support they are entitled to. Along with its 1967 Protocol, the Convention serves as the primary legal framework for refugee protection and offers a universal definition of a refugee.¹⁶

The 1951 Refugee Convention is a thorough and legally binding international agreement that establishes global standards for the treatment of refugees. The growing number of refugees following the two world wars highlighted the need for a convention to promote international cooperation in addressing the refugee crisis, requiring collective action by governments to find a lasting solution to the issue.¹⁷ The complexities of refugee laws pose significant challenges for climate refugees, who are not formally recognized under current international legal frameworks. The 1951 UN Refugee Convention, the core legal instrument for refugee protection, defines a refugee as someone fleeing persecution based on race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group. This definition does not include people displaced by climate-related events such as rising sea levels, droughts, floods, or other environmental disasters. As a result, climate refugees fall outside the scope of international refugee protection and often lack access to legal status, resettlement pathways, or humanitarian assistance. Although terms like "climate migrant" or "environmentally displaced person" are used in policy discussions, they carry no binding legal protections. Global agreements like the Global Compact

¹⁵ Anthony H. Richmond, *Global Apartheid: Refugees, Racism and the New World Order* 211 (Oxford University Press, Toronto, 1994).

¹⁶ Ibid

¹⁷ Id, p. 215

for Migration or the Sendai Framework acknowledge climate displacement, but they are non-binding and lack enforcement. Furthermore, proving that climate change is the primary cause of displacement is legally difficult, as it often intersects with poverty, conflict, and poor governance. Most climate displacement also occurs within national borders, leaving affected individuals dependent on domestic policies that are often inadequate. This legal and policy vacuum leaves millions of climate-displaced people vulnerable, marginalized, and largely invisible in international protection systems.¹⁸

1.5 IMPACT OF CLIMATE- INDUCED MIGRATION ON CLIMATE REFUGEES

Climate induced migration is a serious problem, which could be garnered from the above discussion. Considering the numerous pressures, experiences and environmental catastrophes are the major causes of innumerable difficulties confronted by the poor inhabitants world over, who are forced to become refuge seekers as 'ecological refugees'. This poses a serious weakness of international legal instruments, who are unable to address the issue of ecological refugees despite having a comprehensive network of treaties to address the needs of traditional refugees, ecological or climate refugees remain largely unrecognized and unprotected. The 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol form the cornerstone of international refugee protection. However, these instruments are narrowly focused on individuals fleeing persecution due to political, religious, ethnic, or social factors, and do not account for displacement caused by environmental degradation or climate change.¹⁹

This legal limitation is problematic given the growing number of people forced to leave their homes due to sea-level rise, desertification, extreme weather events, and natural disasters, conditions that are becoming more frequent and severe due to global warming. Despite the existence of numerous international agreements and bodies that deal with environmental issues (e.g. the UNFCCC, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction) and migration (e.g. the Global Compact for Migration), none of them offer binding legal protection or refugee status to those displaced by ecological factors.²⁰

This disconnect reflects a broader institutional inertia and lack of political will to adapt existing frameworks to modern realities. As a result, ecological refugees fall into a legal vacuum, unable to claim asylum or receive international assistance through formal channels, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation, statelessness, and humanitarian neglect. This exposes a serious weakness in the international legal system, its inability to evolve in response to one of the most pressing humanitarian crises of our time.

The impact of climate induced migration is multidimensional. It badly affects the livelihood of climate refugees. Climate refugees are individuals compelled to leave their homes because of the effects of climate change, including rising sea levels, severe weather events, and extended periods of drought. The loss of their habitats as well as loss of livelihood of the indigenous populations are some significant impacts. Many climate refugees depend on agriculture, fishing, or tourism, industries that are highly vulnerable to climate change. The urgency to leave their homes leads to mental trauma and as they relocate to unfamiliar regions, far away from their homeland, they

¹⁸ Id, p. 217

¹⁹ Guy S. & Goodwin-Gill, *The Refugee In International Law* 214 (Oxford University Press, Great Britain, 1983).

²⁰ Ibid

may struggle to find work in new economic systems, leading to financial instability, leading to their poverty.²¹

Cultural displacement is yet another stringent impact, when the people are uprooted from their ancestral lands, they not only lose their physical homes but also lose their identities. This cut off their ties with their heritage, traditions, and community bonds. The sense of identity tied to their environment is often irreversibly altered, causing deep psychological trauma.²² Socio-economic hardships faced by the displaced people in the form of overcrowded camps or informal settlements, lacking basic civic services like healthcare, education, and clean water, lead to severe health problems. Refugees frequently face discrimination in the countries in which they seek asylum. They are marginalized, leading to further economic and social exclusion from the society aggravating their hardships further. The combination of these challenges creates a cycle of vulnerability, leaving climate refugees at risk of long-term instability and marginalization.²³

Within climate refugee populations, women, children, and marginalized communities face heightened vulnerability due to their socio-economic status and limited access to resources. Women often bear the impact of climate-related displacement, experiencing increased risks of gender-based violence, exploitation, and loss of livelihood. Children, particularly those in refugee camps, suffer from disrupted education, poor nutrition, and higher mortality rates. Marginalized groups, including indigenous populations and people with disabilities, encounter additional barriers in accessing aid, healthcare, and safe shelter. The intersection of gender, age, and marginalization worsens their hardships, making these groups more susceptible to exploitation and long-term instability.²⁴

Climate-induced displacement can significantly exacerbate mental health issues, as individuals face trauma, loss of homes, and uncertainty about the future. The stress of relocation, coupled with the disruption of social networks and cultural ties, often leads to unease and despair. Displaced communities face an increased risk of infectious diseases as a result of living in overcrowded conditions, poor sanitation, and lack of access to clean water. These health challenges strain already limited healthcare resources, making it difficult to provide adequate care. The combination of mental and physical health burdens places immense pressure on humanitarian aid systems.²⁵ Thus, devoiding the climate refugees of their rights is the ransacking of their basic human rights.

1.6 CASE STUDIES OF CLIMATE REFUGEE CRISES

The climate refugee crisis has become one of the most visible human consequences of climate change, affecting millions of people across the globe. Rising sea levels, extreme weather events, prolonged droughts, and environmental degradation are increasingly forcing individuals and communities to abandon their homes and livelihoods. Although climate-induced displacement manifests differently across regions, several case studies demonstrate the profound impact of

²¹ G. Martone, 'Life with Dignity: What is the Minimum Standard', in A. Bayefski (ed) *Human Rights and Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons and Migrant Workers* 140 (Martinus Nihoff, The Hague).

²² L. Westra, *Environmental Justice and the Rights of unborn and Future Generations* 268 (Earthscan, London, 1st ed, 2006).

²³ Id, p. 270

²⁴ Id, p. 272

²⁵ L. Heinzerling, 'Climate Change, Human Health and the post- precautionary principle' 96(2) *Georgetown Law Journal* 46(2008).

climate change on human mobility and highlight the urgent need for legal and policy responses. One of the most significant examples of climate-induced displacement can be found in low-lying island nations in the Pacific Ocean. Countries such as Tuvalu, Kiribati, and the Maldives face existential threats from rising sea levels. Scientific projections indicate that continued global warming could render substantial portions of these territories uninhabitable within the coming decades. Coastal erosion, frequent flooding, and saltwater intrusion have contaminated freshwater resources and reduced agricultural productivity, making survival increasingly difficult for local populations. In Kiribati, the government has adopted the concept of “migration with dignity,” encouraging planned migration while seeking to preserve the cultural identity of its people. Similarly, the Maldives has explored various adaptation strategies, including coastal protection projects and the development of artificial islands. These cases demonstrate that climate change may eventually threaten not only individual livelihoods but also the territorial integrity and sovereignty of entire states.²⁶

South Asia represents another region where climate change has significantly contributed to displacement. Bangladesh is particularly vulnerable due to its geographic location and dense population. The country frequently experiences floods, cyclones, riverbank erosion, and sea-level rise, all of which have displaced millions of people. Coastal communities have faced increasing salinity in soil and water resources, reducing agricultural output and forcing migration to urban areas. Cyclones such as Sidr, Aila, and Amphan have caused extensive destruction and large-scale population movements. Similar challenges are evident in India, where climate-related disasters including floods, droughts, heatwaves, and cyclones have disrupted traditional livelihoods. The Sundarbans region, shared by India and Bangladesh, offers a notable example of climate displacement, as rising sea levels and severe cyclonic activity have led to the erosion and disappearance of several islands, forcing residents to relocate. These developments illustrate how climate change interacts with socio-economic vulnerabilities to generate significant migration pressures.²⁷

The situation in Sub-Saharan Africa further demonstrates the relationship between environmental degradation and displacement. The Sahel region has experienced prolonged droughts, desertification, and declining agricultural productivity, threatening the livelihoods of communities that depend heavily on farming and livestock rearing. Scarcity of water and fertile land has compelled many individuals to migrate in search of economic opportunities and basic necessities. In Somalia, recurring droughts have devastated agricultural production and contributed to severe food insecurity, resulting in widespread internal displacement. Similarly, the shrinking of Lake Chad has undermined fishing, farming, and pastoral activities that sustain millions of people in surrounding countries. As natural resources become increasingly scarce, migration often becomes a survival strategy, highlighting the interconnected nature of climate change, poverty, and human mobility.²⁸

The Pacific region also provides important examples of planned relocation and adaptation efforts. In Fiji, several coastal villages have already been relocated due to the increasing risks posed by

²⁶ Ibid

²⁷ M. Wakernagel & W E Rees, *Our Ecological Footprint* 365 (New Society Publishers, Canada, 2nd ed, 1996).

²⁸ Ibid

sea-level rise and extreme weather events. These relocation initiatives seek to balance physical safety with the preservation of social and cultural ties. Vanuatu and the Marshall Islands face comparable challenges, with communities experiencing repeated flooding, coastal erosion, and threats to freshwater supplies. These experiences underscore the reality that climate-induced displacement is no longer a future possibility but an ongoing phenomenon affecting vulnerable populations today.

Collectively, these case studies reveal that climate change acts as a threat multiplier, exacerbating existing social, economic, and environmental vulnerabilities. While most climate-related migration currently occurs within national borders, the growing scale of displacement raises significant concerns regarding human rights protection and international responsibility. The experiences of island nations, South Asia, Africa, and the Pacific demonstrate the inadequacy of existing legal frameworks, particularly the absence of formal recognition for climate refugees under international refugee law. As climate impacts intensify, these examples highlight the urgent need for comprehensive legal protection, enhanced adaptation measures, and coordinated international action to address the evolving climate refugee crisis.²⁹

1.7 COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO PROTECT AND SUPPORT CLIMATE REFUGEES

A comprehensive approach is required to protect and support climate refugees. It requires a multi-faceted strategy that addresses both immediate needs and long-term resilience to uplift their cause. Global cooperation is required to tackle the challenge of displacement caused by climate change. Global cooperation will be the first step and all the countries must collaborate together, in order to establish an effective legal framework to recognise the climate refugees and grant them adequate protection under the international law as if given to any other traditional refugee. This would help ensure their rights to safety, shelter, and dignity. The gaps in the Refugee Convention should be filled by incorporating international human rights and humanitarian law to ensure effective protection. It should grant safety and aids like food, water medical support, in early stages of displacement. However, long-term solutions, like sustainable livelihood programs and skills training, are needed to help climate refugees rebuild their lives and regain economic independence. Education, especially for children, must be prioritized to prevent a lost generation.³⁰

Addressing the root causes of displacement is also critical. Mitigating climate change through emissions reductions and adaptation strategies in vulnerable regions can help reduce future displacement. Host countries must also invest in infrastructure and social services to integrate climate refugees, promoting social cohesion and reducing potential tensions with local communities. Ultimately, a comprehensive approach must balance immediate humanitarian relief with long-term sustainable development, ensuring that climate refugees are not only protected but empowered to thrive in their new environments.³¹

²⁹ Id, p. 367

³⁰ Ibid

³¹ Id, p. 369

1.8 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the plight of climate refugees highlights the crucial need for global action to address both the causes and consequences of environment-induced displacement. As extreme weather events and environmental degradation continue to escalate, vulnerable populations are increasingly at risk of losing their homes, livelihoods, and cultural identity. A coordinated international response is essential, combining legal protection, humanitarian aid, and long-term solutions for economic stability and social integration. By addressing the origin sources of displacement and supporting affected communities, we can mitigate the effect of climate change while ensuring that climate refugees are given the opportunity to rebuild their lives with dignity and security.