MM4Sight

Mixed Migration foresight

Danish Refugee Council and IBM project on predictive modelling

Project vision - MM4Sight will be able to develop a conceptual, tech-driven, probabilistic methodology utilizing fact-based datasets from multiple sources, combined with first hand observations and expert judgment. The result will be the development of a model to understand more precisely how factors influence mixed migration. This will enable policy makers and humanitarian practitioners to develop better informed and evidence-based policies and interventions around the global phenomenon and challenges of mixed migration.

The world today faces an **unprecedented number of forcibly displaced people** with more than 65 million people displaced internally or across borders. Additionally, there are **high numbers of people on the move regularly and irregularly** as economic migrants, with millions more developing aspirations to move. While the demand for responses and solutions increase, the international community is facing substantial difficulties effectively utilizing data to predict, understand and address the underlying causes of mixed migratory flows. The current situation carries substantial humanitarian, societal and political implications and there is a clear need for deeper understanding of drivers, aspirations and capacities relating to human displacement and mobility.

There is a considerable publicly available data today, yet there is limited understanding of how to use and weight these data in different migration and displacement contexts. This often leads to simplistic understandings of the migration and displacement drivers and processes, resulting in inaccurate prognosis, expectations and inefficient or misguided responses. The lack of common, fact-based understanding of migration drivers - including the impact of development, aid and prosperity in a globalized world, means that governments and other actors lack a common basis for policy discussion and solution development. **There is a need for an objective and fact-based forecasting platform that may provide support for decision making.**

How will MMSight meet the challenge – Through this jointly owned project Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and IBM, with support from the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs will leverage their distinct capacities, relative strengths and sector knowledge to attempt to develop and test a predictive model. In addition to a wide range of data sets relating to multiple variables, the findings of direct contact with thousands of migrants themselves will be used. Specifically, the data from DRC's on-going Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism Initiative (4Mi) with over 4,000 in-depth surveys with those in mixed flows (and smugglers) in East Africa Region alone and over 11,000 globally. The project will also collaborate with other entities working on predictive modelling, academic institutions and independent experts in this endeavour that is recognised to be an ambitious attempt in a complex and multi-variate context. The collation, combination and analysis based on the inter-relatedness of datasets and the use of machine learning MM4Sight hopes to offer a new methodology and tool in the field of mixed migration analysis.

The project runs until July 2019, and is vested with the **Mixed Migration Centre**, a knowledge centre in DRC that was established in **February 2018**.