

Climate Change and the Future of Disaster Displacement: Lessons from Climate Migrants and Host Communities

1. Background:

Climate change is a global phenomenon driven by increased greenhouse gas emissions, causing significant disruptions to the Earth's climate system. Climate-induced displacements have witnessed a significant increase in both frequency and scale across the globe. In 2021 alone, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) reported that 23.7 million people were displaced globally, due to cyclones and floods. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimates that by 2050, between 25 million and 1 billion people globally will be forced to migrate due to climate change and environmental degradation. South Asia is not immune to this phenomenon, as disasters account for a significant number of internal displacements in the region. In 2021 alone, approximately 5.3 million disaster-related displacements were reported. According to the Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSA), an alarming projection suggests that climate disasters could compel around 45 million people in India alone to migrate by 2050, representing a threefold increase from current figures.

Understanding the need for addressing the challenges and planning for the future, Sphere India Academy is organizing a virtual discourse on the topic "**Climate Change and the Future of Disaster Displacement: Lessons from Climate Migrants and Host Communities**" on **26th June 2023** from **3:00 PM to 4:00 PM (IST)**.

2. Objectives:

- 2.1 To understand the linkage between climate change and displacement, including the associated impacts on affected populations and regions.
- 2.2 To identify and comprehend the key challenges faced by both climate change-induced migrants and host communities, considering the social, economic, and environmental dimensions.
- 2.3 To suggest effective strategies and preparedness measures for governments and policymakers to anticipate and address climate change-induced displacement, focusing on proactive approaches and response mechanisms.
- 2.4 To explore the role of partnership and collaboration between national and international actors in addressing climate change-induced displacement.

3. Expected Outputs:

- 3.1 Enhanced understanding of the linkage between climate change and displacement, including the associated impacts on affected populations.
- 3.2 Identification of key challenges faced by climate change-induced migrants and host communities, leading to targeted support and intervention measures.
- 3.3 Formulation of effective strategies and recommendations for governments and policymakers to anticipate, prepare for, and address climate change-induced displacement, promoting resilience and sustainable solutions.

AGENDA

Date: 26th June 2023 | Time: 03.00 PM - 04.00 PM (IST)

Zoom link: <http://tiny.cc/SIA-26-06-23>

Moderator: Dr. Mrinalini Banerjee,
Assistant Professor (Research); Centre Member: Centre for Environmental Law, Sustainable Development and Climate Change

Time	Topic	Facilitator
03:00 - 03:05	Welcome and Introduction of the Speakers	Sphere India
03.05- 03. 10	Context Setting	Moderator
03:10 - 03:45 (7-9 min each)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does climate change contribute to human migration, and what are the key linkages between these factors? How has Bangladesh been affected by climate change in terms of displacement, and what are the major challenges faced by climate change-induced migrants and host communities in the country? 	Dr Mukesh Kumar Gupta Assistant Professor, Environmental Sciences Asian University for Women, Bangladesh
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When considering India, who can be classified as climate migrants and which groups are at risk of climate migration? How can we accurately identify these vulnerable populations facing displacement due to climate change? What are the current policies addressing climate migration in India, and what policy measures should be developed to enhance protection and preparedness for future climate-induced displacement? 	Mr. Amit Chowdhury National Project Officer, International Organization for Migration (UNIOM)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the perspective of climate migrants, what are the specific challenges they face in terms of their rights being violated or compromised due to climate-induced displacement? What are the most critical challenges faced by governments and policymakers in anticipating and addressing climate change-induced displacement? 	Dr Aniruddha Dey Chairperson, Professional Institute for Development and Socio Environmental Management - PRISM
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bangladesh is an example of a country that has National Strategy on the Management of Disaster and Climate Induced Internal Displacement. What specific measures has Bangladesh taken to address climate change-induced displacement, and what have been the outcomes and lessons learned? What are some of the key strategies that India can follow? 	Dr. S. K. Tawhidul Islam, Professor and Director, Institute of Remote Sensing and GIS, Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka.
03:45 - 03:55	Q&A / Open Discussion	Led by Moderator
03:55 - 05:00	Vote of Thanks	Sphere India