

The Climate, Migration and Health Nexus: Opportunities for Interregional Cooperation

Climate change, migration and health are three defining challenges of the 21st century. While each has been extensively studied, research and policy have largely evolved in silos - focusing on climate and migration, migration and health, or climate and health. As a result, there remains a critical gap in understanding how these dynamics interact, and how to design effective, integrated policy responses.

Our [new open access volume](#), published by Springer, addresses this gap. Bringing together contributions from members of the [CliMigHealth network](#) and the [UNU Migration network](#), the book reflects a unique, interdisciplinary and globally connected research community working at the forefront of this nexus.

The volume presents new empirical evidence and conceptual insights from scholars and practitioners **across disciplines** including geography, economics, public health, medicine, sociology, psychology and disaster studies. Together, these contributions highlight the complex, context-specific and often non-linear interactions between climate change, human (im)mobility and health outcomes. They also explore adaptation strategies, governance challenges, and innovative transdisciplinary approaches across different regional settings.

Four priorities stand out:

- ✓ First, **strengthening the evidence base** is essential. Contributors point to persistent gaps in longitudinal and disaggregated data on migration, health outcomes and vulnerable populations. Governments and research institutions could invest in long-term cohort studies tracking migrant health trajectories, while regional organisations could support interoperable data systems that capture cross-border mobility, including internally displaced and “trapped” populations.
- ✓ Second, policy responses need to be **grounded in meaningful engagement with affected communities**. Chapters emphasise the importance of agency, inclusion and local knowledge. This calls for institutionalising participatory mechanisms such as community advisory boards, co-design processes for relocation, and locally managed adaptation funds, with particular attention to marginalised groups facing disproportionate risks.
- ✓ Third, **health systems must be better prepared for climate-related mobility**. The evidence shows that displacement can disrupt access to care and increase both infectious disease and mental health risks. Governments and health actors could deploy mobile clinics in displacement-prone areas, ensure continuity of care for chronic conditions, and integrate mental health support into emergency and adaptation responses.
- ✓ Finally, the volume highlights the **critical role of regional and interregional cooperation**. Many challenges at this nexus transcend national borders and require coordinated responses. Regional organisations can help harmonise migrant health entitlements, coordinate cross-border healthcare provision, and pool resources for research and infrastructure. Interregional cooperation can further align climate finance with migration and health priorities, ensuring that funding mechanisms reflect interconnected risks.

The contributions in this volume point to the need for more systemic, collaborative and forward-looking approaches. By bridging disciplines, regions and policy domains, the book aims to support more effective and equitable responses to one of the most complex challenges of our time.

👉 The full open access volume is available here: <https://lnkd.in/d7N2aj8T>