

## **Request for Proposals**

# **Case studies on climate-induced migration in the context of just transition: Micro perspectives from India**

**Deadline: 29 February 2024**

## About the project

Climate change is increasingly exacerbating existing inequities and undermining the resilience of people, places, and systems across India. Human migration is a critical and common strategy to manage real and perceived climatic and non-climatic risks. However, little is known about the finer contours of climate-induced migration related to phenomena such as rural and urban livelihoods and transitions, urban growth and the capacity of urban areas to incorporate migrants in equitable and sustainable ways, and connections and feedback loops involving consumption, energy, just transition, and climate-resilient development. To address this need, the Population Council and Indian Institute for Human Settlements are co-leading a project on climate-induced migration within India with the overarching goal to develop a comprehensive, forward-looking, and impactful research agenda and accompanying body of evidence.

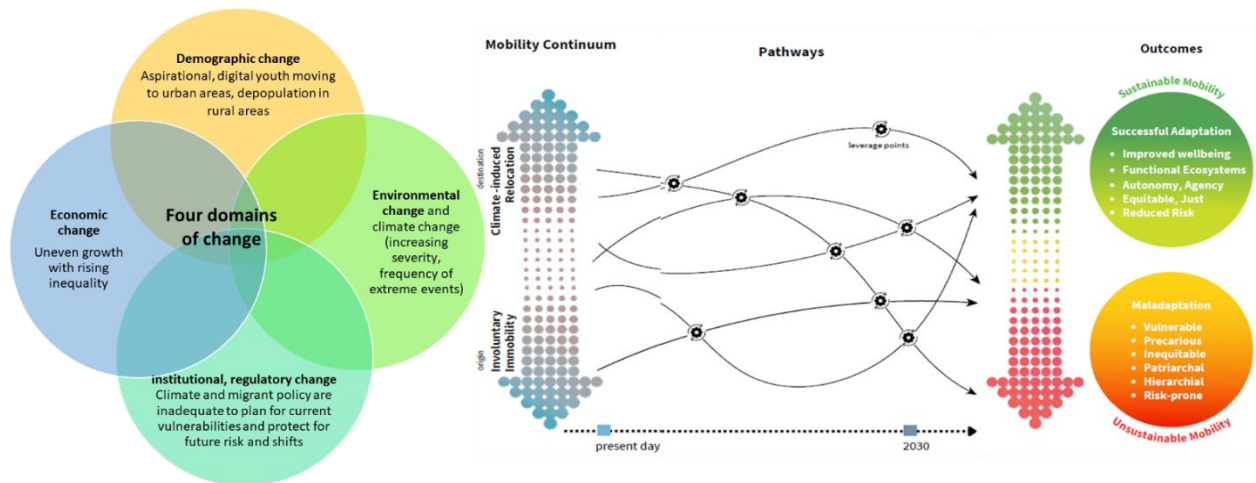
Internal migration within India is not a monolith and consists of many fine contours and complexities that, to date, are inadequately understood, which ultimately impedes evidence-based policy and programmatic actions. For example, internal migration within India is of many types—seasonal and cyclical, temporary, permanent, etc.—and out-migration is more prevalent in the northern and eastern parts of the country. Some of the key drivers of migration include education, employment, socioeconomic status, land tenure, and agricultural losses; however, less is known about the exact mechanisms involved and how climate change is mediating these drivers. In general, members of socioeconomically disadvantaged and marginalized groups are more likely to migrate, with these moves often distress-driven (Deshingkar & Farrington, 2009; Keshri & Bhagat, 2010). Migrants from socioeconomically disadvantaged and marginalized groups are also more vulnerable to climate stressors because of multiple intersecting and interacting factors, making it difficult for them to achieve a decent standard of living and quality of life. Thus, beginning with push factors at home, the mode and method of travel, expenses along the way, and unexpected conditions during transit and upon arrival at destination can severely undermine and impede equity, resilience, and just transition (Bhagat, 2017; Deshingkar, 2022; Singh & Basu, 2020).

The project is operationalized into three Work Packages:

- Work Package 1 anchors and nurtures a multisectoral consortium and technical advisory group to inform and guide scoping exercises, needs assessments, and research activities, and ensure that the resulting evidence is used to inform research, policy, and programming.
- Work Package 2 develops macro-level views from above using “big data” to identify and analyze spatial and statistical overlaps and associations between climate change and migration.
- **Work Package 3 focusses on micro-level views from below via strategic case studies to elucidate the on-the-ground drivers and levers, mechanisms and dynamics, and perceptions and experiences, that create and sustain climate-induced migration within India.**

## What we're looking for

Under Work Package 3, this RfP focusses on **four case studies** to build a bottom-up understanding of climate migration drivers and outcomes, and linking this reality of people moving, with wider trajectories mapped across four domains of change: (1) economic change and regional development, (2) climate and environmental change, (3) demographic shifts and aspirational changes, and (4) institutional and regulatory dynamics. These collectively drive people to move or stay (the mobility-immobility continuum) and lead to certain outcomes on human wellbeing and adaptive capacities, and at a wider-scale, sustainability and just transitions (Adger et al., 2024; de Haas, 2021). These aspects are captured in the figure below.



## Technical criteria

The invited case studies are expected to contribute to building an empirical base to understand how local realities of moving/staying in rural, urban, and peri-urban areas are driven by multiple factors and have multiple, multi-scalar outcomes. Each case study should encompass the following elements:

- The case should be situated in one or more climate hotspots (e.g., drought-prone rainfed agriculture, Himalayan villages)
- The case should target a migration corridor (e.g., out-migration from UP, Bihar to Mumbai; Ganjam district in Odisha to Surat).
- The case should identify drivers of migration while emphasizing the linkage between migration patterns (or immobility) and local conditions (e.g., environmental change, socio-cultural shifts) as well as wider aspects of policy and regulatory change (e.g., state-level focus on skilling).
- The case should integrate a gender perspective and consider intersectionality (e.g., how gender shapes migration choices and outcomes, how the intersections of gender with caste, age etc. shapes adaptive capacity).
- The case may also explore broader themes of just energy transitions and uneven regional development.

## Submission details, timelines, budget and deliverables

One case study per applicant (individual/organization) is allowed with a maximum budget of USD 15,000 per case study. Please submit your proposal for a case study using the [attached template](#) by 29<sup>th</sup> February 5pm IST to Ashita Munjral <amunjral@popcouncil.org> and Divyanshi Vyas <dvyas@iihs.ac.in>. Proposals can be submitted in MS Word and PDF formats but care should be taken to fill all fields in the template. In case of queries about the process, please reach out to the email IDs above.

After shortlisting, case study anchors will be invited to present their cases to the project Technical Advisory Committee in a meeting in New Delhi on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Proposal Submission Deadline	29 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2024, 5 PM IST	Submission of case study proposal
Selection Results	30 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Selection results with feedback from Technical Advisory Committee
First check-in workshop	August 2024	Review progress of selected case study projects; guidance and support for further development
Second feedback and check-in writeshop	December 2024	Selected applicants present their findings and progress; facilitation of a writeshop for collaborative writing and refinement of case study reports
Final Submission	January 2025	Finalized case study reports submitted for publication and synthesis

Each case study must submit a written report of the key questions, context, methodology, findings, and policy recommendations. Apart from this, two presentations (one in August, one in December) are expected. Case study teams will also have an opportunity to present their work in creative ways (e.g. short videos, infographics) that IIHS and PC will anchor from January 2025 onwards.