The Impact of Climate Change and Displacement on the Right to Education

Online from UNESCO Headquarters, Fontenoy Building, Paris, France
24 May 13:30-15:30 CET

Provisional Agenda

In remembrance of two powerful cyclones that hit southeast Asia in May 2019 and May 2020 – climatic catastrophes that displaced millions of people overnight, UNESCO is organizing a Webinar to stimulate the global dialogue around the impact of climate change and climate displacement on the right to education on 24 May 2022 (13:30 – 15:30 CET). This event is part of a broader initiative launched by UNESCO in 2020 to investigate the barriers to education posed by climate change, as well as climate-driven displacement, given the increasing impact of climate change on human mobility.

Main expected outcomes:

- Gather insights from experts and critical actors from various regions studied to better understand specific challenges and trends;
- Identify and discuss common as well as context-specific emerging challenges, as well as the varied and different patterns of displacement and barriers to education among the different regions;
- Taking into account the existing lack of a single, comprehensive definition of “climate-displaced person,” explore whether and/or why having such a standardized and widely-accepted definition is politically, legally, and functionally important;
- Brainstorm preliminary policy messages and key takeways to protect and fulfill the right to education in the face of climate-driven disruptions and displacement.
Webinar: The Impacts of Climate Change and Displacement on the Right to Education

**Tuesday 24 May 2022**  
**13:30–15:30 CET**

**Moderator:** Gwang-Chol Chang, Chief of Section for Education Policy

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| 13:30 – 13:39 | Opening Remarks  
Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO |
| 13:40-13:45   | Presentation of the initiative on the impact of climate change and displacement on the right to education  
Borhene Chakroun, Director, Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems |
| 13:45-14:05   | Interventions by key actors:  
- Ms. Christelle Cazabat, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), Research Manager  
- Ms. Kehkashan Basu, M.S.M., Green Hope Foundation, President and Founder  
- Ms. Mathilde Treguier, International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), Associate Programme Specialist |
| 14:05-15:00   | Panel discussion  
To discuss four key questions:  
1. *How can countries best identify populations prone to, or currently experiencing, the effects of climate change and climate displacement, as well as the barriers to education* such groups face? What are some barriers to education as a result of climate change that are often overlooked, taking into account *complex socio-economic vulnerabilities*? Additionally, it is clear that all SIDS are particularly prone to climate change and climate displacement. How can the particular geographic and socio-economic challenges that render SIDS so vulnerable be addressed?  
2. *Taking into account the lack of a single definition of “climate-displaced person,”* is agreeing on a *standardized and widely-accepted definition of climate displacement* politically, legally, and functionally important - more specifically to ensure the right to education for all, and if so, why?  
3. *In what ways can countries strengthen the synergy across disaster risk reduction policy, education policy, and climate change/environmental policy so that the right to education is addressed more systematically in emergency response plans as is the case for shelter, food, and sanitation?* What are some *promising practices and policies* already in place in some affected countries that could serve as a model for others?  
4. *What regional cooperation mechanisms currently exist that could permit states to engage in horizontal cooperation in order to share knowledge and solutions?* What new forms of regional cooperation could be envisaged in the future? |
| 15:00 – 15:20 | Interventions by:  
- Ms. Fumiko Noguchi, United Nations University (UNU), Researcher  
- Mr. Victor Nyamori, Amnesty International, Researcher and Advisor  
- Ms. Violeta Orlovic Lovren, University of Belgrade, Professor  
- Mr. David Knaute, Independent Researcher, Consultant  
- Ms. Anja Nielsen, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Consultant (tbc)  
- Ms. Dominique Russell, Bahamas Ministry of Education, District Superintendent  
- Dr. Tufoua Panapa, Tuvalu Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports, CEO |
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