

Climate Mobility Innovation Lab

Asia and the Pacific



NEWSLETTER - September 2025

As we approach the final quarter of the year, **IOM's Climate Mobility Innovation Lab (CMIL) for Asia and the Pacific** has continued to build momentum, carrying forward the energy and ideas generated at the 2nd Regional Symposium for Climate Displacement, held from 25 to 27 June 2025 in Bangkok, Thailand, which also marked the launch of the Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF). Since then, the Lab has advanced key initiatives and deepened collaboration with partners, including:

- Opening the first call for applications under the Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF);
- Establishing a research team to conduct research on nature-based solutions and climate mobility;
- Publishing the third episode of our podcast series; and
- Co-hosting two workshops in Suva to advance the pilot rollout of the Risk Index for Climate Displacement (RICD).

Building on this momentum, CMIL remains committed to working with partners across the region to scale up innovative, practical solutions that address the complex realities of climate mobility and help close the critical adaptation finance gap. As we enter this final quarter of the year, we are pleased to share some of the key **highlights** from the past few months.

Call for Applications: Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF) – Now Open!

CMIL, together with IOM's country offices in Indonesia and the Philippines, has launched the Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF) to support quick-impact projects that strengthen local resilience, reduce climate displacement risks, and enhance adaptation to climate change. National and local organizations with projects in Indonesia: **Regencies of Aceh Timur, Bandung, and Bandung Barat, and the City of Makassar**; and the Philippines: **Provinces of Rizal and Rodriguez** are invited to apply for grants of up to USD 25,000.

The CCF prioritizes local-level, quick-impact projects that can be completed within 12 months, and are aligned with CCF's core priorities: reducing climate displacement risks, enhancing resilience, strengthening local ownership, and incorporating co-financing.

To learn more and apply, please visit iom.int/ccf.

For inquiries or collaboration opportunities, including providing matching funds, contact us at CCF-AP@iom.int.

Deadline for applications: **17 October 2025, 23:59 (GMT+7)**.

SCAN TO APPLY



Our sincere appreciation to the European Union for their generous support to the Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF), which serves as a critical stepping stone in transforming data-driven risk insights from [the Risk Index for Climate Displacement \(RICD\)](#) into concrete, locally led adaptation on the ground.

CMIL Launches Regional Initiative Linking Nature-Based Solutions with Climate Mobility



In response to the climate crisis, the Climate Mobility Innovation Lab (CMIL) is launching a new regional project to build the evidence base on Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and Climate Mobility, which includes:

- **A Conceptual Study:** Examines how NbS interact with environmental, social, and economic drivers of displacement, and how NbS interventions can deliver measurable improvements to climate mobility outcomes in Asia and the Pacific. NbS provide dual benefits - protecting ecosystems while enhancing community well-being, food and water security, public health, and local resilience. These benefits are critical to preventing forced displacement, supporting in-situ adaptation for those who wish to remain, and creating pathways for voluntary migration and potential return.
- **NbS Project Pipeline:** Building on the findings and recommendations of the conceptual study, tailored briefs will be developed for potential pilot countries and locations where this approach may be applied. These briefs will identify strategic entry points—such as standalone initiatives or small-scale pilot projects—that could be supported by CMIL's Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF) or implemented independently. Each brief will demonstrate how local NbS initiatives can provide cost-effective, long-term solutions to climate mobility while enhancing resilience, reducing adaptation costs, and delivering co-benefits for biodiversity and livelihoods.

- **Guidance Note:** Offers practical recommendations for integrating NbS-related datasets and indicators into the Risk Index for Climate Displacement (RICD), as well as for embedding NbS interventions within community-level climate funds, such as the Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF).
- **NbS Modelling:** Quantitative assessment of the reduction in displacement risk achieved through various NbS interventions, capturing both the direct protective benefits they provide and the broader socio-ecological co-benefits. The assessments will inform adaptation investment decisions such as through the CCF.

CMIL has commissioned a team of experts to lead this project across eight countries in the region, supported by a Project Reference Group comprising [the Pacific Community \(SPC\)](#), [International Union for Conservation of Nature \(IUCN\)](#), and [the University of the Philippines Los Baños - Interdisciplinary Program on Integrated Natural Resources and Environmental Management](#).

Fill in the Blanks - Episode 3: Nature-based Solutions



CMIL has released the third episode of its Fill in the Blanks podcast series, hosted by Ms. Sonali Manimaran. This episode explores how ecosystems and nature-based solutions can help communities adapt to climate change and reduce the risk of displacement.

In this episode, Ms. Manimaran speaks with Dr. Juan Pulhin, Professor at the University of the Philippines Los Baños and lead author of multiple Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports. Dr. Pulhin highlights how community-based forest management, watershed rehabilitation, and mangrove restoration in the Philippines are strengthening resilience. He also reflects on the importance of science, local knowledge, and inclusive governance in addressing climate mobility.

[LISTEN TO THE PODCASTS HERE](#)

Roll out of the Risk Index for Climate Displacement in Fiji

Two Workshop Held in Suva on the Roll Out of the RICD

In early August, CMIL and IOM Fiji hosted two workshops in Suva to advance the pilot rollout of the Risk Index for Climate Displacement (RICD). The Micro-Level Data Workshop (7 August) convened policymakers, technical experts, and practitioners from the Fiji Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, University of South Pacific, University of Fiji, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Platform on Disaster Displacement, and more to refine the design of household surveys, key informant interviews, and focus group discussions that will capture community-level insights into displacement risks. Particular attention was given to addressing data gaps and ensuring that traditional knowledge and cultural attachments are fully integrated into the analysis.

The Introductory Technical Workshop (8 August) brought together regional and national government agencies, including the Pacific Community (SPC), Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), Fiji Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Ministry of iTaukei Affairs and Culture, Heritage and Arts, and Ministry of Rural, and Maritime Development and Disaster Management for a full-day introduction to the RICD framework. Participants reviewed macro-level risk mapping and explored opportunities to integrate findings into national planning for displacement and planned relocation. The workshop also emphasized the importance of data sharing and highlighted the Climate Catalytic Fund as a complementary financing tool to support at-risk communities. Together, the workshops underscored Fiji's leadership in embedding evidence-based approaches to climate mobility into national systems and strengthening collaboration across sectors.



About Climate Mobility Innovation Labs

IOM's [Climate Mobility Innovation Labs \(CMIL\)](#) across Asia-Pacific, Africa, and the Mediterranean serve as dynamic hubs for innovation, capacity strengthening, and collaboration. By prioritising scalable solutions and meaningful community engagement, CMIL empowers communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change and respond to the challenges of climate mobility. Globally, CMIL initiatives play a vital role in advancing evidence-based, community-led action for resilient and sustainable futures. CMIL's work includes:

- [Risk Index for Climate Displacement \(RICD\)](#) - a decision support tool co-created by CMIL, in collaboration with a broad network of government, scientific, academic, and other partners in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Pacific.
- [Climate Catalytic Fund \(CCF\)](#) - a blended finance mechanism, that mobilizes rapid and flexible match-funded grants to translate data-driven risk insights from the RICD into concrete, locally-led adaptation action.

CMIL welcomes partners to contribute their expertise, resources, and influence to our mission—whether through technical assistance, financial support, or advocacy. Join us at cmil-ap@iom.int.



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If you'd like to explore our work further or get involved, don't hesitate to contact us at cmil-ap@iom.int

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