

Climate Mobility Innovation Lab

Asia and the Pacific



NEWSLETTER - March-April 2026

The months of March and April continued the dynamic pace established at the start of the year for the Climate Mobility Innovation Lab (CMIL). As 2026 progresses, CMIL continues to observe both the profound impacts of climate change on community resilience and the hope inspired by innovative, locally driven solutions.

This latest issue opens with several key updates: the continued advancement of the inaugural Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF) projects for locally-led preparedness, adaptation, and resilience in Indonesia and the Philippines; the robust response to the CCF in Fiji, following the screening of 61 community proposals from Ba and Macuata provinces, the recent opening of the CCF application window in Vanuatu; key milestones in CMIL's programming on human mobility and Nature-based Solutions (NbS), highlighted by the Pacific NbS webinar; and steady progress on shaping the Asia-Pacific Youth Climate Mobility Initiative and its regional roadmap.

First Batch of CCF Projects in Indonesia Hit Initial Milestones

IOM Indonesia, with support from CMIL, has signed contracts for the first batch of Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF) projects in Indonesia. Five projects have been selected, representing a total investment of \$92.5k, with \$95k in matching contributions from national and local partners and communities. These projects are being implemented in the regencies of Aceh Timur and Bandung Barat, and the city of Makassar—all identified as high-risk areas through the Risk Index for Climate Displacement (RICD)

Currently, 3 out of the 5 CCF-funded projects have successfully completed their first milestone and have undergone the milestone verification process. The first milestones of these three projects address various aspects of key climate adaptation measures and set the foundation for overall project implementation, including:

1.Solar-Powered Irrigation for Climate-Resilient Agriculture by SRE Indonesia in West Bandung, which completed a feasibility study and site validation to assess the technical, environmental, and social readiness for a solar-powered irrigation system.



2.Empowering Untia Village through Bioreactor Ozone (BIZON) Technology for Sustainable Clean Water Solutions by PT Sefactor Deos Maks (Puffer) in Makassar, which completed baseline assessments and community engagement activities, including water quality and socio-economic surveys, community consultations, and the establishment of a local water management committee.



3. Women-Led Climate Adaptation and Solar Innovation for Heat and Drought Resilience by Yayasan Rumah Mama in Makassar, which conducted community awareness sessions on heat and drought and trained women as “Green Tech Stewards” in renewable energy, heat safety, and climate data collection.



The CCF milestone verification process plays a critical role in ensuring accountability, learning, and implementation readiness, while capturing early insights to strengthen subsequent phases. As the remaining projects advance toward their first milestone, these initial verifications help establish a strong and credible foundation for broader CCF impact.

Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF) – Call for Applications Now Open in Vanuatu

CMIL, together with IOM’s Country Office in Vanuatu, has officially launched the Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF) call for applications in Vanuatu, aimed at addressing the growing risks of climate-induced displacement driven by intensifying cyclones, flooding, and storm surges.

Following consultations with national stakeholders, IOM has identified two priority hotspot locations—Sanma and Penama provinces—where climate displacement risks are high. This targeted approach reflects a commitment to directing investments toward tangible, local-level adaptation and resilience action.

CMIL therefore invites national and local organizations with new or ongoing adaptation and resilience initiatives in Sanma and Penama provinces to apply for CCF grants of up to USD 25,000.

The CCF prioritizes local-level, quick-impact projects that can be completed within six months and align with its core objectives: reducing climate displacement risks, strengthening community resilience, and leveraging co-financing.

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

For inquiries or collaboration opportunities, including providing matching funds, contact us at VanuatuCCF@IOM.int or call + 678 29786 / +678 7599247

Deadline for applications: 31 May 2026, 23:59 (GMT+11).



 climate catalytic fund

Call for applications

Climate Catalytic Fund in Vanuatu

Provinces of Sanma and Penama

Deadline for application submission: **31 May 2026**

For more information, visit our website:

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Apply here 

   

Bridging Nature and Mobility: CMIL Launches NbS Report and Project Pipeline in Southeast Asia and the Pacific

On 31 March, IOM's CMIL and The Pacific Community (SPC) convened over 150 regional stakeholders to launch the CMIL and SPC-led conceptual study on Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and Human Mobility and its accompanying ten-country project pipeline. The event and the underlying study and pipeline were designed to expand the evidence base and reduce climate displacement risks. Participants emphasized the urgency of bridging sectoral divides, integrating traditional ecological knowledge, and unlocking targeted investments like the Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF). Moving forward, CMIL and partners are focused on translating these frameworks into investable, locally-tailored project pipelines that empower frontline communities across Asia and the Pacific.



Featured Publication

Officially launched at the event, this landmark report dives deeper into the critical links between climate impacts and human mobility. It introduces the NbS Landscape Pipeline and provides advanced project-level analytics to estimate resilience gains and potential avoided displacement. By identifying investable, local initiatives, the publication serves as a practical guide for regional stakeholders.

CMIL gratefully acknowledges the support of its donors from the European Union and Sweden in making this research possible.

Scan to Read

the Full Report & Resources



Advancing Climate Displacement Risk Mapping in Asia and the Pacific

This spring, the **Climate Mobility Innovation Lab (CMIL)** has made significant strides in operationalizing the **Risk Index for Climate Displacement (RICD)** and the **Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF)** across the region. Here are the latest milestones from Thailand, Indonesia, and Vanuatu:

Thailand

On 23 April 2026, CMIL and the Department of Climate Change and Environment (DCCE) convened the first RICD Working Group in Bangkok. Bringing together key academic and government partners, the meeting established DCCE's co-leadership to ensure the tool aligns with national priorities. Stakeholders mapped existing data, explored synergies with national indices, and aligned on flooding, coastal erosion, sea-level rise, and drought as priority hazards.

Looking ahead, a broader cross-ministerial meeting will facilitate data access to ground-truth and validate historical displacement records. The first macro-level risk maps are expected in August, guiding the selection of two priority provinces for community fieldwork in September. Ultimately, the RICD will support Thailand's National Adaptation Plan, guide the CCF, and generate evidence for the global Loss and Damage Fund.

Indonesia

On 22 April 2026, over 40 stakeholders gathered in Jakarta for an RICD national workshop co-led by the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB). Participants validated macro-level findings across more than 50 districts and identified over 10 priority locations for deeper micro-level analysis. Discussions highlighted the need to strengthen hazard indicators and establish unified policy coordination to address fragmented climate displacement mandates.

At the micro-level, the workshop explored how these climate risks drive real-world community decisions to adapt, stay, or move. These selected sites—spanning Java, Nusa Tenggara, Sulawesi, Bali, and eastern Indonesia—will undergo deeper mixed-method analysis to capture diverse contexts like coastal flooding and land subsidence. The current priority is to refine these datasets and ensure that climate displacement is integrated into cohesive national planning.

Vanuatu

On 16 March 2026, Vanuatu hosted its second RICD technical workshop in Port Vila, co-led by the Department of Climate Change (DoCC) and the Vanuatu Bureau of Statistics (VBoS). Key data custodians and technical partners reviewed the initial "version 0" macro-level analysis, validating preliminary displacement hotspots and identifying critical data gaps to inform upcoming micro-level community assessments.

The validated macro-analysis will directly guide the CCF's deployment in the country. During the workshop, the CCF was formally introduced to national partners to begin co-designing implementation and matching grant mechanisms. This early engagement ensures that future investments effectively mobilize public, private, and community resources for low-carbon resilience projects in Vanuatu's most vulnerable communities.

Summary of Activities

Virtual | April | Presented the CMIL scoping study and broader programmatic work at the Migration and Mobilities Research Hub Brown Bag webinar hosted by Monash University.

Virtual | April | Collaborated with Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and IOM GDI to discuss the development and technical refinement of the RICD 2.0 methodology.

Virtual | April | Advanced the regional rollout of the Climate Catalytic Fund (CCF) by shortlisting Fiji applications for field verification, finalizing milestone payments in Indonesia and the Philippines

Bangkok, Thailand | April | CMIL represented IOM at the Protecting Rights and Dignity in Climate Mobility Regional Conference, focusing on policy frameworks, human rights, and durable solutions for climate-displaced communities.

Bangkok, Thailand | April | Convened the inaugural Risk Index for Climate Displacement (RICD) Working Group meeting with the Thai Government to define parameters for the national rollout.

Bangkok, Thailand | April | Participated in a panel discussion at the 82nd Session of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) to present CMIL's innovative finance approaches for development.

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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