

# Climate Change, Environmental Hazards and Population Dynamics

November 11–12, 2025

Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR), Rostock, Germany 

Join us for a two-day symposium bringing together global scholars from diverse disciplines, including demography, public health, environmental science, sociology, and economics. Explore cutting-edge research on how climate change and environmental hazards shape population dynamics through their effects on health, mortality, migration, and fertility. Engage in discussions on inequality, adaptation, and resilience, and contribute to an interdisciplinary dialogue on the demographic dimensions of our changing climate. For more information: [Conference Site](#) or [climate2025@demogr.mpg.de](mailto:climate2025@demogr.mpg.de)

## Conference Program

### First Day – 11.11.2025

09:00–09:15 Welcome & Opening Remarks

09:15–10:15 Keynote Session 1

Chair: *Risto Conte Keivabu*

- **Valerie Mueller**, Professor, School of Politics and Global Studies, Arizona State University - *Social Safety Nets and Environmental Injustices Related to Human Mobility and Health*
- **Brian Thiede**, Associate Professor of Rural Sociology, Sociology, and Demography, Pennsylvania State University - *Food and Nutrition Security in a Changing Climate: Recent Evidence and New Directions*

10:45–12:15 Session 1: Risks and vulnerabilities

Chair: *Sara Ronnvist*

1. **Maria Rubio-Cabañez**, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid – *Extreme Temperatures and Socioeconomic Inequality in Academic Performance*
2. **Domenico Bovienzo**, Ca' Foscari University & CMCC – *Integrating Demographic and Socioeconomic Projections into the INFORM Climate Risk Index*
3. **Sara Ghebremicael**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – *Intersections of Climate, Conflict, and Food Security in Ethiopia*
4. **Brooke Ury**, Brown University – *Temperature and Precipitation as Drivers of Hospitalization Seasonality in Mexico*
5. **Kathryn Grace**, University of Minnesota – *Climate, Conflict, and Acute Malnutrition: Quantitative Insights for Anticipatory Action*

13:30- 14:00 Networking session

## 14:00–15:00 Keynote Session 2

Chair: *Daniela Perrotta*

- **Josiah Kephart**, Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Drexel University – *Disentangling climate hazards from demographic change in climate-health projections*
- **Joan Ballester**, Senior Researcher, ISGlobal, Barcelona Institute for Global Health - *Integrating data from LMICs for global heat-related health studies*

## 15:00–16:00 Session 2: Fertility and housing

Chair: *Maria Rubio-Cabañez*

1. **Ursula Gazeley**, University of Oxford – *Climate Change and Fertility in Low- and Middle-Income Countries*
2. **Isabel Brooks**, University of Michigan – *Rainfall Change, Fertility, and Kin Co-Residence*
3. **Amy Read**, Princeton University – *Quality Over Quantity: Long-Term Trends in Post-Disaster Housing Markets*

## 16:30–18:00 Session 3 - Mortality & health

Chair: *Jasmin Abdel Ghany*

1. **Eugenio Paglino**, University of Helsinki – *Excess Heat-Related Deaths in the U.S. and Differences from Official Statistics*
2. **Deborah Balk**, CUNY Institute for Demographic Research – *Health and Social Implications of Disaster Impacts for Older Adults: Lessons from the US Health and Retirement Study*
3. **Rosanna Gualdi**, University of Bologna – *Projecting Future Temperature-Related Mortality in Europe*
4. **Dariya Ordanovich**, Spanish National Research Council – *Reconstructing Mortality Burden from Temperature Extremes: Age-Specific Evidence from Madrid, 1890–2020*

## Second day – 12.11.2025

## 09:00–10:00 Keynote Session 3

Chair: *Ebru Sanliturk*

- **Raya Muttarak**, Professor of Demography, University of Bologna, and Principal Research Scholar, IIASA - *Towards accounting for climate feedback on population dynamics*
- **Deborah Balk**, Professor of Spatial Demography, CUNY Institute for Demographic Research. - *Population and Climate Data Integration: Retro-fits and Research Gaps Across the Life Course (online)*

## 10:30–12:00 Session 4: Migration

Chair: *Eugenio Paglino*

1. **Christoph Deuster**, European Commission, JRC – *To Move or Stay? Migration Intentions Amid Conflict and Climate Change*
2. **Alessandra Carioli**, European Commission, JRC – *Global Gridded Data on Long-Term Population and Settlement Dynamics (1900–2100)*
3. **Sara Rönnkvist**, University of Wisconsin–Madison – *Post-Disaster Transitions and Trajectories of Step-Wise and Return Migration*
4. **Hannes Müller**, Instituto de Análisis Económico (IAE) – *Climate-Driven Internal Migration: Evidence from Spain and the U.S., 1950–2023*
5. **Gaurav Inder Singh Toor**, University of Luxembourg – *Climate Migration: A Longitudinal Data Approach*

**13:00–13:30 Networking session**

**13:30–15:00 Session 5: Fertility and perinatal health**

**Chair: Sophia Noël**

1. **Jasmin Abdel Ghany**, University of Oxford – *Survival of the Fittest: How Prenatal Heat Exposure Reduces Infant Mortality in Mali*
2. **Jorden Jackson**, Penn State University – *Changing Climate Dynamics and Fertility Goals: Insights from South Asia*
3. **Marco Cozzani**, University of Florence – *The Effect of Extreme Temperatures on Fertility Intentions*
4. **Tingting Rui**, University of Pennsylvania – *Early-Life Environmental Conditions and Child Development: Socioeconomic Disparities in Exposures and Adaptations*
5. **Chiara Baldan**, University of Padova – *The Impact of High Temperatures on Fertility: Evidence from Italian Municipalities (2003–2022)*

**15:30–16:30 Poster Session**

**Poster Session**

1. **Sophia Noël**, Sciences Po Paris – *Air Pollution and Depression Following Widowhood in Europe*
2. **Danielle Morales**, University of Massachusetts Boston – *Left Behind: The Climate Crisis as a Disability Justice Issue*
3. **Emmanuelle Kuijt**, European Doctoral School for Demography – *Educational Inequality and Climate-Related Mortality in Belgium*
4. **Lukas Kroher & Rasmus Hoffmann**, University of Bamberg – *Extreme Weather Experiences and Climate Change Perceptions*
5. **Maya Luetke**, University of Minnesota - *Exposure to heat waves and hot temperatures and intimate partner violence in Kenya*

**16:30–17:30 Panel Discussion**

**Panel discussion**

**Chair: Risto Conte Keivabu**

**Diego Ramiro-Fariñas**, Spanish National Research Council

**Raya Muttark**, University of Bologna

**Kathryn Grace**, University of Minnesota

**Brian Thiede**, Pennsylvania State University

**17:30–17:40 Concluding Remarks**

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**Organizing Committee**

The organizing committee includes the following individuals from the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research: Risto Conte Keivabu, Ebru Sanlitürk, Daniela Perrotta, Emilio Zagheni and Raya Muttarak from the University of Bologna and the IUSSP Scientific Panel on Population Dynamics under Global Conflict and Climate Change.

