

Environmental Migration, Human Security and Climate Change in Philippine Cities

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Extreme climate events (e.g., Katrina, Haiyan 2014) and disasters have led to displacements and movements of people to places/cities perceived to provide more safety from climate disasters as well as provide more livelihood security. Previous studies of both internal and international migration have mainly underscored the economic and livelihood resilience dimensions of human mobility across time and space.

This paper argues that to understand the patterns of environmental migration, we need to examine the contextual drivers of climate disasters and their intended and unintended consequences to the community social structure in the places of origin and destination. Based on census data, community surveys and ethno-graphic/methodological data sources, this study argues that by examining the intersections of social and ecological transition factors, we gain a better understanding of the patterns of internal/externally-driven human mobilities, especially that of vulnerable communities at risk to climate disasters.