

PROJECT
UPDATE
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New research on the “Evolving Humanitarian Action for Forced Migration” met online in Summer of 2022

The Peacebuilding and Humanitarian Support Research Cluster started a new research project this year that explores humanitarian action in assisting and supporting forced migrants. The inception of this project is based on the observed increased frequency and gravity of humanitarian crises triggered by disasters and environmental degradation, conflicts and instability, poverty, and the COVID-19 pandemic, which consequentially resulted in the forced movement of large numbers of people. With the compounded needs and insecurities brought forth by their forced movement, the directions and extent of humanitarian action to ensure the human security of the affected population becomes critically important. More so, this nexus of people’s movement and humanitarian action may result in profound transformations that shape both local societies and global interactions.

And on July 2022, the new research project, “The Evolving Humanitarian Action for Forced Migration,” was launched. This research project is an exploratory investigation of humanitarian action assisting forced migrants, seeking evidence on humanitarian action in recently forced migration situations, including: (1) how the modalities and types of assistance (available and needed) for forced migrants evolve over time; and (2) how the situation of displaced persons who cannot (fully) access available support and assistance is accounted for and addressed.

This project explores the evolving humanitarian action supporting displaced populations through five case studies that look into assistance and support to (and engagement with) displaced children, women, people with disability, older people, and migrant workers. Each case study will present a narrative on the development of humanitarian action for a specific group of forced migrants, examining their specific forced migration contexts. The project pools together scholars and practitioners engaged in studying and working with diverse populations vulnerable during crises. This project is co-lead by Lorenzo Guadagno from the Platform on Disaster Displacement and Muto Ako and Lisette Robles from JICA Ogata Research Institute. Invited researchers/authors for this project include Nikki Herwanger and Alexandra Bate from IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), Louisa Yasukawa of Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), Oliver Neuchäfer from the Christian Blind Mission (CBM), Irene Shoefberger and Salma Nooh from IOM Global

Migration Data Analysis Centre(GMDAC), Rogie Royce Carandang from the University of Connecticut, Hata Tatsuya of Kindai University, and Takeuchi Kaito from JICA Ogata Research Institute.



In Photo: Research Project members during the 1st Research Project Meeting
(L-R: Lisette R. Robles – JICA Ogata Research Institute, Nikki Herwanger – IOM DTM, Louisa Yasukawa - IDMC, Irene Schoefberger – IOM GMDAC, Alexandra Bate – IOM DTM, Oliver Neuchäfer - CBM, Takeuchi Kaito and Muto Ako – JICA Ogata Research Institute)

The project held two of its initial meetings in July and August, respectively. The preliminary meeting was held on July 11, welcoming all the participating researchers to the project and discussing the overall direction of the project in detail. The 2nd Research Project Meeting followed this fruitful online meeting on August 5, where the participating researchers delivered the research plan for each case study. From here on, case study consultations were held to discuss further the case studies' progress in anticipation of the upcoming face-to-face meeting in early 2023.

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