

Date: 28 July 2025

Minutes of Meeting

Scientific Group of Asian Population Association (APA)

Theme: Climate Mobilities, Migrants, and Health

Date: 28 July 2025

Duration: 1 Hour

Chair: Prof. Bhagat

Present Members:

Prof. Bhagat (Chair)

Prof. Jatrana

Prof. Islam

Prof. Kabamalan (APA Representative)

Mr. Nasim

1. Opening Remarks

Prof. Bhagat welcomed the members and initiated the meeting by emphasizing the range of important activities ahead- including book publishing, organizing a conference, and related academic engagements. He underscored the need to proceed strategically, given the current situation of limited or no confirmed funding, and encouraged members to prioritize low-cost, high-impact initiatives.

2. Funding Constraints

The group acknowledged the current lack of dedicated funding for its activities. Prof. Kabamalan offered to explore potential funding sources through APA and will revert after internal discussions within APA. Until funding is confirmed, all plans will be made with minimal financial requirements.

3. Conference Planning

A robust discussion was held on hosting a thematic conference on climate mobilities, migration, and health. Members emphasized the need to integrate theoretical, methodological, and empirical advances in the field especially for the early career researchers. Potential host institutions identified include:

India: International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS); Institute of Human Development

Bangladesh: University of Dhaka

Others: To be explored based on logistical and institutional readiness

The group agreed that the conference should serve as a platform to bridge research, policy, and practice, and reflect the regional diversity of climate-migration-health dynamics.

4. Representation in Upcoming Conferences

Prof. Bhagat and Prof. Jatrana will represent the group at the 7th Mahidol Migration Center Regional Conference. Their participation will serve to enhance the group's visibility, share its emerging agenda, and foster connections with researchers and institutions working on related themes.

5. Meeting Frequency

The group decided to convene once every two months to maintain momentum, coordinate activities, and monitor progress.

6. Social Media Communication

There was a preliminary discussion on whether the group should maintain its own social media presence or operate under APA's digital platforms. Prof. Kabamalan will consult APA on this matter and share a decision at the next meeting or before via email.

Action Points

1. Book Publication Initiative

Two publication models were explored:

Edited Volume

Authored Book

An exciting development is that the Journal of Population Research will advertise a special edited book issue in two months, focusing on climate mobilities, migrants, and health. Prof. Jatrana will lead this journal initiative. The group will prepare the book's proposal for Springer.

2. Online Seminar Series

To initiate engagement and scholarly exchange, an online seminar will be organized every two months, each featuring:

A 30-minute invited lecture

Followed by a 30-minute Q&A session

Mr. Nasim will coordinate this series and oversee the scheduling, speaker invitations, and technical arrangements.

3. Document Management

Mr. Nasim will create and manage a shared folder to systematically archive:

Meeting minutes

Seminar details

Book proposals

Any other relevant group documents

Closing Remarks

Prof. Bhagat thanked the members for their contributions and emphasized the strategic importance of the group's work. The meeting concluded with a sense of purpose and collaboration toward advancing climate mobility and health research in Asia.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for the last week of September 2025.

Minutes Prepared by: Mr. Nasim

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