

Call for Papers

## Organizational Perspectives on Environmental Migration

Rome (Italy), Academia Belgica, 7–8 November 2014

*Deadline for Abstracts: 1 September 2014*

There are now a few organizations from the civil society devoted specifically to the plight of environmental migrants, both in industrialized and developing countries. In addition, most large international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) and international organizations (IOs) have also developed advocacy work with regard to environmental migration. What is their role in shaping the discourse on environmental migration? How do they interact with other organizations? Very few studies have yet analyzed the influence and rhetoric of advocacy groups in the debates on environmental migration.

To address and close this research gap, the workshop unites researchers that work on these questions from various disciplinary contexts (sociology, political science, geography, anthropology, conflict studies, etc.). It also invites members of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), INGOs, IOs, and governments to join the discussions and to learn more about the organizational needs and challenges to address the topic of environmental migration efficiently in order to reach the targeted audiences (e.g., the general public, policy makers, migrants, or other stakeholders both in the countries affected by environmental migration internally and destination countries worldwide). In line with the mid-term vision of the COST<sup>1</sup> network, we explicitly seek to enable increased participation of non-European researchers as well as of the affected people, of concerned activists and practitioners in the debate.

The COST Action 'Climate Change and Migration: Knowledge, Law and Policy, and Theory' represents an opportunity for experts, practitioners, researchers, and policy-makers to exchange, develop and improve on knowledge and tools surrounding issues of climate change and environmental migration ([http://www.cost.eu/domains\\_actions/isch/Actions/IS1101](http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions/isch/Actions/IS1101)). This COST workshop aims to gather researchers and practitioners from various types of organizations that are engaged in the topic of environmental migration. Research in this field has received increasing attention both in policy and academic circles. The role NGOs, INGOs, IOs, and governmental bodies or ministries play in this context, however, has remained understudied.

Applications for participation are invited by 1 September 2014. Abstracts should address climate change and environmental migration and fall in line with the above stated aims. Abstracts should not exceed 500 words in length and must be in English, which will also be the working language of the workshop. Participants will be notified by 8 September 2014 if their paper has been selected.

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<sup>1</sup> COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is one of the longest-running European frameworks supporting cooperation among scientists and researchers across Europe.

We plan to publish selected articles on this topic in a special issue of an international peer-reviewed journal. Deadline for the submission of workshop papers will be 30 October 2014. Articles can be research-based articles of up to 6,000 words as well as shorter opinion pieces from members of NGOs and IOs. All abstracts will be evaluated and selected by the workshop organizers. Travel and accommodation grants will be provided for up to 15 participants.

The workshop will take place on 7–8 November 2014 on the premises of the Academia Belgica, in the centre of Rome. The workshop benefits from the support of the Academia Belgica: <http://www.academiabelgica.it/>

*Applications should be sent by 1 September 2014 to the workshop organizers:*

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