

# **BELMONT FORUM COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ACTION ON INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO HUMAN MIGRATION MOBILITY IN AN ERA OF RAPID GLOBAL CHANGE (2023 2025)**

## **1. Executive Summary**

The goal of this project is to understand how migration movements are affected by Global Change processes like environmental and climate changes, demographic changes, consumption, energy and land-use developments, and economic and socio-cultural transformations. We use data modeling of social tipping points, a governance of crisis approach to macro-, meso and micro-levels and two mixed-method case studies - (1) food security and belonging and (2) cultural survival and resilience - to suggest how countries can prepare for and respond to upcoming global changes while maintaining a focus on protecting, honoring and celebrating the heritages, cultures, identities and stories of people on the move. The project's title, "PHOENIX," reminds us that individuals and societies can also follow an adaptive cycle of growth, maturity, vulnerability, and renewal – like the legend of the Phoenix, soaring back stronger after Global Changes is possible.

The first stage of the project utilizes GIS techniques to synthesize and integrate existing geographic, climate, economic, socio-cultural and longitudinal data sets to provide a solid foundation for understanding the complex factors of Global Change. Then, PHOENIX expands the study of governance beyond traditional approaches focused on climate or migration to explore how we can utilize the theory of social tipping points as a way to integrate climate (im)mobilities across policy silos. We incorporate regional comparisons with reflections on the global scale of governance to provide concrete and out-of-the-box policy recommendations. Next, the project dives deep with two human-centric case studies of social tipping points. The food security and belonging case study focuses on the economic, political and social dimensions of food before, during and after migration to explain how migration policy and economic-environmental changes drive migration decisions and experiences of forced migrants. The cultural survival and resilience case study responds to criticism of earlier resilience research pointing to its overemphasis on the individualized nature of adaptation (Bettini et al. 2017; Felli 2013) and the lack of sensitivity to community and cultural factors in contextualizing resilience practices (Bottrell, 2009). Adopting a culturally sensitive approach, this case study examines how fears of cultural extinction are exacerbated by Global Changes, mobility, and governance and how cultural coping - resilience - can be augmented. The final stage of the project brings together the quantitative and qualitative work from the project's data modeling, governance analyses and two case studies to push innovation via interdisciplinary model development.

Taken together, PHOENIX explores how social tipping points are created by the intersections of quantifiable factors (such as environmental and economic changes) and the qualitative effects of governance failures and socio-cultural dimensions of vulnerability. By integrating natural and social science research using qualitative and quantitative data we go beyond the state of the art to identify migration hotspots and suggest interventions for future Global Change and (im-)mobility events.

The project draws on research in 8 countries (Sweden, Austria, Turkey, Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile and South Africa) and 4 regions (Europe, Middle East, South Africa and South America) in order to maximize the diversity of Global Changes we examine and to analyze the Global Scale of social tipping points. We use GIS modeling, surveys, semi-structured interviews and life story interviews, focus groups, comparative policy analysis, discourse analysis, ethnographic field work, and kino-eye (digital diaries). The consortium includes world renowned climate scientists and migration scholars who have previously managed large-scale multidisciplinary projects and are well-qualified to oversee all tasks of the project. We combine disciplinary expertise in earth and climate science, sustainability studies, political science, sociology, psychology, economics, anthropology, law, human rights, gender and intersectional approach to maximize the innovative potential of the project.

PHOENIX's research and impact framework are designed to develop a holistic approach to Global change and includes all phases of governance cycles as well as a focus on post-mobility belonging and

resilience. Since Global Changes have an uneven impact based on pre-existing vulnerabilities, and failure to understand this reinforces existing inequalities, PHOENIX thus will study how vulnerabilities impact and are impacted by policies attempting to prevent and prepare for Global Changes. Of particular concern is how Global Changes (re)shape gender norms and inequalities for migrants and members of local communities. Our case studies are human-centric and explore how local cultural knowledge can be used to prevent and reduce existing risks, prepare for new lives after mobility and ensure the sustainability of distressed societies.

By bringing together multiple lines of evidence and a focus on human agency in specific contexts, our research has the potential to transform the academic study of Global Changes and (im-)mobilities as well as to influence policy makers and public perceptions. The scientific impact of the project is shaped by project reports that will develop into papers presented at academic workshops. These workshops will lead to special issues of leading peer-reviewed journals and/or edited volumes that ensure knowledge contributions at the highest levels. We will also create an open-access GIS database, policy map and interactive online graphical social tipping point model that other researchers can use beyond the lifetime of the project. The project findings will be tested and communicated in a series of country-specific stakeholder expert panels (SEP) as well as policy briefs that aim to re-shape governance responses to Global Changes. By including stakeholders throughout the project, not only at the end, we ensure that the research is tailored to specific contexts and policy-maker needs. The public impact of the project is ensured by Climate Mobilities and Resilience Platforms (CMR), which bring together local stakeholders, municipalities, civil society actors, citizens and the scientific community to reflect upon and simultaneously contribute to the project's outcomes. Within the framework of CMRs, seminars, workshops, and cultural activities will be organised in each participating country and according to local needs and goals. Additionally, we plan digital art galleries, kino-eye videos and a podcast series to enable our participants - migrants themselves - to communicate their experiences of mobility and resilience.

## 2. Project Description

### *a. Background*

Recently, the coronavirus pandemic has illustrated how radically socio-ecological risks can transform the everyday lives of citizens. Lockdowns showed both the enduring strength of public solidarity and also the potentially disruptive impact of misinformation in the form of “fake news”, illiberal populist narratives and also poor government communication in emergency situations. Just as countries appeared to get a handle on the pandemic in 2021, the conflict in Ukraine in 2022 sent more refugees into Europe than had arrived since the second world war. On the other side of the Atlantic, political and social upheaval, climate, food and health crises sent migrants from Cuba, Haiti and Venezuela and other countries to North and South America. Along with highlighting the on-going migration issue, the COVID-19 pandemic and conflict in Ukraine have brought the complexity and sensitivity of global supply chains and food and energy security to the forefront of politics. Taken together, these recent events show how the environmental and economic impacts of Global Change, ineffective governance and human mobilities are linked in complex ways. It is more important than ever to understand how individuals and communities emerge phoenix-like from challenges – from the literal flames of global heating and destroyed environments or from the abstract flames of cultural, heritage and demographic loss. What strategies enhance resilience and enable societies to take flight again?

In order to tease the linkages between Global Change, mobility and resilience apart, our project, hereafter PHOENIX, undertakes **5 research clusters**:

**Cluster 1:** PHOENIX uses GIS techniques to build a comprehensive database on relevant aspects of migration and Global Changes such as environmental, governance, and economic factors, creating a solid foundation for an integrated systems approach to objectively identify social tipping points.

**Cluster 2:** PHOENIX examines governance across policy silos, identifying points of entry in humanitarian, development, agriculture, food, health, environment and climate policy, and will theorize governance frameworks holistically and beyond the confines of migration policy to increase policy coherence and impact via integrated governance.

**Cluster 3 and Cluster 4:** PHOENIX expands our understanding of vulnerability and resilience by zooming in on two case studies related to mobility and Global Change: food and belonging and

community survival. The case studies enable us to add a human agency perspective to analyses of governance and analyze the differential impacts of gender, race, class, migrant status, geography, and age on mobility and climate risk.

**Cluster 5:** PHOENIX draws on the project's natural science data modeling and social science research-base to identify potential hotspots of migration and suggest coordinated interventions that protect vulnerable populations, enhance community well-being, and build societal resilience to Global Changes.

### **Conceptual Approach**

PHOENIX uses the lens of **climate mobilities** to capture the range of (im)mobilities tangled up with and related to changes in the climate. This approach “pays attention to the multiplicity of climate change-related human mobility (involving immobility, relocation, circular mobility, etc), its embedding in ongoing patterns and histories of movement, and the material and political conditions under which it takes place” (Boas et al., 2022: 2). With this lens, we see migrants as people who undertake open-ended journeys, change their minds and are swept up in global dreams or nightmares about “home” (Benezer & Zetter 2014). While Global Changes impact aspirations, we can only understand how these impacts manifest if we view migrants in holistic contexts where ecological and social disasters are nested and inter-connected in time and space with personal projects and human life courses. A key dimension of research on Global Change will be navigating the impacts of incremental versus sudden changes, which we understand using the concept of **social tipping points (STPs)**, defined as “a point within an SES [social-ecological system] at which a small quantitative change inevitably triggers a non-linear change in the social component of the SES, driven by a self-reinforcing positive feedback mechanism, that inevitably and often irreversibly lead to a qualitatively different state of the social system” (Milkoreit et al., 2018: 10). The interconnectedness of STPs and governance make it challenging to navigate Global Changes, with governance decisions potentially impacting social tipping points and their effects and vice versa. Examining the governance of climate mobilities therefore makes up a core part of our project. Through in-depth research and policy analysis, we will develop **models of integrated governance** that can increase coordination among diverse policy fields that affect mobility.

Migration is a processual journey requiring researchers to trace **trajectories** along with migrants (Schapendonk et al. 2021). Thus, our research examines how mobile and immobile individuals engage in life-long, multi-spatial and multi-temporal projects of **belonging** and **resilience**. Belonging refers to embedding in communities (Simonsen 2018), an on-going, life-long endeavor that depends on resilience in the face of Global Change (Rottmann, 2019). We define resilience as the individual and collective capacity to navigate to available resources, to negotiate for these resources, and to rise like a PHOENIX in a culturally meaningful way when faced with adversity (Ungar, 2012). Given the wide scope of belonging and resilience, we choose two case studies focusing on how belonging and resilience are shaped by **food and cultural identities** and **fears of cultural loss**.

We study **food** to examine climate mobilities because food is a key intersection point for climate and culture. Food is not just something humans need to survive, it is tied up in our identities, the meanings we give to experiences and our social ties. The study of food practices enables us to closely examine the role of gender in social reproduction. Food links us to our collective pasts and ethnic solidarity networks (Avieli & Grosalik 2013; Diner 2003; Janowski 2012; Marte 2012; Mortada 2016; Vallianatos & Raine 2008; Tuomainen 2009). Foodways are also a means of exerting power as they allow actors to “negotiate, subvert and challenge existing power structures, undermine power arrangements and depict alternatives” (Avieli & Grosalik 2013: 185). For migrants, food aid from powerful community outsiders may lead to feelings of safety or oppressive domination; may be a source of hope ensuring survival or a sign of hopeless dependency. Food exchanges can lead to a welcome and warm integration into new societies. Refusing to share food can be a vivid demonstration of exclusion, with migrant food sometimes becoming the target of “gastronomic racism” (Cavanaugh 2013, p. 193). **Thus, our project examines how food intersects with mobility and prompts or prevents the development of social tipping points. Further, we explore how food and associated policies (agriculture, energy and social welfare) impact and are impacted by migration policy.**

The second case study focuses on public mental health and related health policies in the face of Global Changes. Research shows that those who are affected by crises have high levels of **resilience** (Simich

& Andermann, 2014). A great deal of research explores trauma and coping, but culture and especially the domains of religion and language are rarely seen as relevant to resilience. One aspect not discussed extensively in research is the **fear of cultural extinction** on a collective level. Cultural extinction refers to “the loss of elements that are unique and vital to the identity of a specific cultural group, including language, religious beliefs, rituals, and customs” (Nickerson et al., 2009:227-228). Such a cultural bereavement differs from the Western notion of grief and is not captured by the understanding of depression and PTSD, which is commonly used to understand health among refugees (Nickerson et al., 2009). **PHOENIX examines how fear of cultural extinction intersects with social and individual trauma and trauma resolution patterns, concerns about climate and Global change, and associated (im)mobilities. Further, PHOENIX proposes to investigate how community-based-problem-solving (Cetrez & DeMarinis, 2017) can have positive effects on people’s psychosocial health, resilience and recovery.**

### **Research Questions and Objectives**

Our project draws heavily on the social and natural sciences and seeks to offer a rigorous evidence base for the assessment of how Global Change impacts mobility and its consequences at local, national and international levels. It aims to develop a database, tools, guidelines and platforms to aid practitioners in designing and implementing migration policy that is flexible and robust enough to respond to Global Change and to support societal resilience. We focus on the **Global Scale of climate mobilities and 3 unique regions** (Europe, South America and the Middle East) to maximize comparative advantages with regards to climate pressures, mobility experiences and policy frameworks. It is rare for researchers to examine both South America and also the Middle East in the context of climate mobilities. Our comparison will enable us to triangulate specific factors and their effect on STPs.

Our **research questions** are:

- What are potential STPs and their influencing factors? In other words, what particular combinations of instabilities in time and space produce (im-)mobilities?
- How are governance frameworks in a range of policy silos responding to the intersection of STPs and climate (im)mobilities?
- How do individuals perceive STPs, migration, health and food policies, and other policies that affect them and to what extent do prospective migrants and vulnerable populations have agency within governance frameworks?
- How do culturally diverse populations develop their own strategies to ensure survival, adaptation and coping within the (new) societies they inhabit as well as to strengthen belonging and mitigate cultural extinction risks?
- How do vulnerable (im-)mobile people reflect upon Global Changes and corresponding threats to cultural survival via their food and (physical and mental) health practices? How can policymakers and civil society organizations support these projects of resilience for the good of newcomers and their societies?

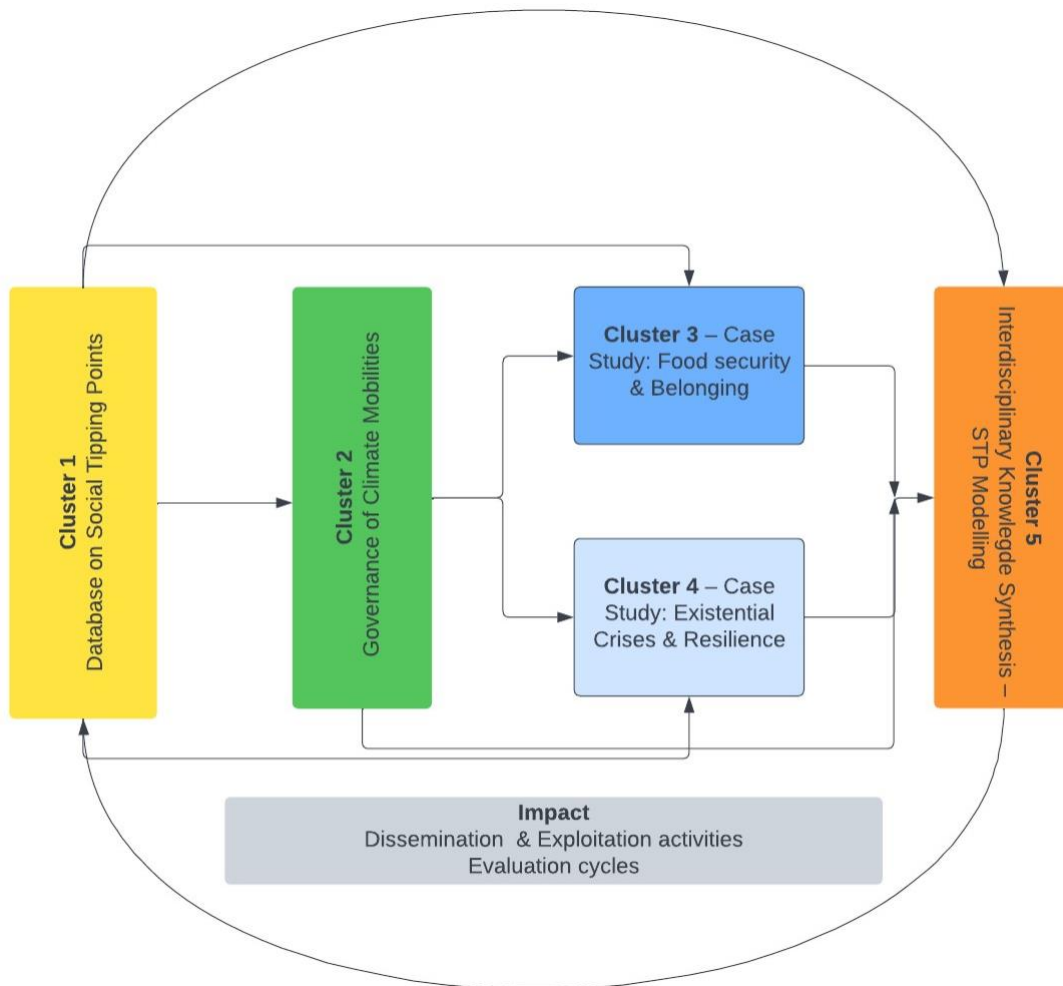
Our project has three main objectives that each address the areas specified in Belmont Forum’s call:

- 3. Model Social Tipping Points (Area 1):** Drawing on both quantitative and qualitative data, PHOENIX develops a model of the factors that create STPs in the context of climate and (im-)mobility pressures. We use the model to identify hotspots of migration, develop different risk scenarios and suggest interventions that promote resilience.
- 4. Develop Integrated Governance Models of Climate Mobilities (Area 2):** Our research examines how governance frameworks link the complex drivers and decision processes that influence and are influenced by (im)mobility, such as policy at a variety of scales addressing climate and environmental change, natural disasters, conflict and violence, social factors (belonging, heritage and culture), and economic challenges and opportunities. We build on this research to suggest how policies can better address the multi-faceted nature of mobility and social distress.
- 5. Use Human-Centric Case Studies to Improve Mobility and Integration Policy-Making (Area 3):** Through case studies that focus on “food security and belonging” and “community survival and resilience,” we will study how migrants perceive mobility, mobility policy and climate risks and when and how they exercise agency in governance contexts.

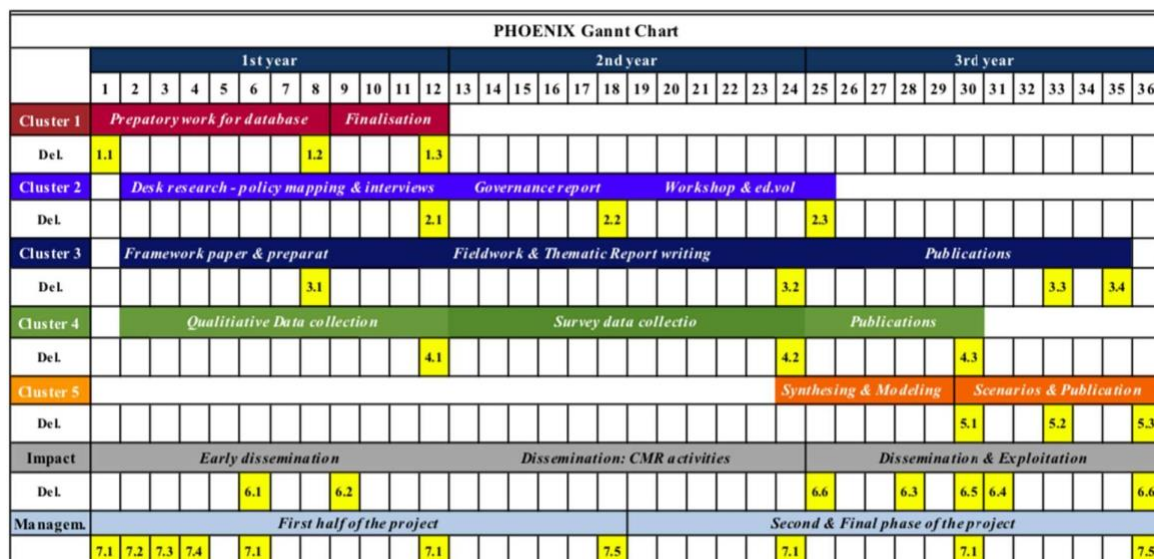
*b. Research networking plan*

To meet the challenges posed by a climate mobilities approach, our research includes both Natural Science and Social Science scholars from disparate fields (incl. earth and climate science, sustainability studies, political science, sociology, psychology, economics, anthropology, law, human rights and gender). The project is structured along five interconnected clusters:

**PHOENIX Clusters**



These clusters inform each other with coordinated data collection, interventions, co-created knowledge bases, and policy and practice foci. The project work plan is designed to create interdependence, interlinkage and integration between the clusters and tasks. Thus, the individual and collective knowledge and competencies in the project teams, as shown in the **Gantt**, though active in different periods, will be at the disposal of the project group for the duration of the project period



**Cluster 1. Data collection and analysis for modeling of Social Tipping Points**

Duration: M 1-12  
 Co-lead(s): GU & UNICAMP

To provide a coherent information basis, to create a common analytical framework, and to facilitate integration of all works of the project, a common database and modeling tool will be developed based on GIS technologies. Related information and data for factors influencing migration will be identified and compiled. These include but are not limited to the following factors: 1) Environmental change directly influencing livelihoods; 2) indicators for governance in terms of designed development policies targeted by race, ethnicity and gender, institutions and rule of law, and inadequate service delivery; 3) Economic drivers; 4) Social or cultural drivers; 5) Use of new ICT that enables potential migrants to build networks and facilitate the migration process; 6) Political conflicts caused by historical discords, social injustices or economic inequalities. Since most of these factors operate on different levels and scales, it is important to have a nested approach: from the local to the international and vice versa. The collected data will enable team members of the project to jointly, objectively, and systematically characterize the situations at hand, model the relationships among the influencing factors, formulate and test hypotheses, and eventually draw conclusions.

**Tasks**

**1.1 Internal workshop and guidelines for database.** An internal preparatory workshop will be organized during the kick-off meeting to discuss Global Change mobility drivers that can form the foundation of the database. Following this workshop, a guideline document for the database will be formulated. (GU)

**1.2. Collection and creation of the database.** This task involves compiling relevant data from different disciplinary perspectives and using advanced multivariate analysis tools from natural science, especially climate research, to address the complex interactions of the drivers and to quantify their effects on migration. The integration of qualitative and quantitative research traditions from both the social and natural sciences in a single framework places this work at the vanguard of interdisciplinary approaches to social-environmental change. (GU with data support from all partners)

**1.3 Selecting relevant climate data.** To identify climate variables and combinations of climate variables that are most relevant to migration, including global historical observations from the Climate Research Unit (CRU), UK Met Office, European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF). Future climate projections from CMIP6 and CORDEX, which were used by the IPCC will provide input for our projection of future impacts of climate change on (im-)mobility and assist with building future scenarios using forecast and network theory. These will be combined with other information related to migration through a set of advanced statistical modeling tools such as multivariate analysis to identify changing patterns and to establish

relationships. (GU)

#### **Deliverables**

**1.1** Internal workshop and guidelines (M 1)

**1.2** Structure of the project database (M 6)

**1.3** Database and its visualization based on GIS technology (M 10)

**1.4** A recommendation of suitable climate data for other tasks of the project (M 12)

### **Cluster 2. Governance of Climate Mobilities**

Duration: M 2-30

Co-lead(s): UWK, ACDH & IERI

PHOENIX focuses on the integration of climate mobilities into policy frameworks outside the direct sphere of migration and mobilities governance. As noted in the call, mobility, development and climate change have been linked via the Cancun Adaptation Framework, 2015 Sustainable Development Goals, the 2016 New York Declaration and its two resulting global compacts and other international policy frameworks (Nash, 2019). Yet, just as climate mobility cannot be reduced to a single source or cause, policies also have multiple effects. Policy areas of note are sustainable development, disaster risk reduction, health, food, and climate change. A core question will be the impact of crisis framing on the governance of climate (im)mobilities across these policy silos: what impacts does it have on governance and policy decisions when (im)mobility drivers are (not) framed as crises? What does an alternative framing of STPs bring to governance approaches? In particular, this will allow us to explore the tension between the severity of climate impacts on human populations and the long-term nature of the consequences that leads to framings of both exceptionality and normalization.

#### **Tasks**

**2.1 Policy Mapping.** A mapping exercise will be conducted of integration of climate (im)mobilities in the respective policy silos at the international level. (UWK)

**2.2 Interviews with local policy stakeholders and policy briefs.** To investigate climate mobility governance in each participant country, teams in clusters 3 and 4 will carry out in-depth interviews (n=5) with relevant local policy stakeholders and prepare policy briefs. (All involved partners)

**2.3 Interviews with global-level policy stakeholders.** Semi-structured expert Interviews (n=10-15) with policy stakeholders will be conducted to deeper understand their perceptions of climate (im)mobilities for their area of policy expertise and furthermore to deeper understand the usage of crisis framings of climate (im)mobilities and how this reflects in their work on the linkages. Individual interview partners will be identified in the course of the policy mapping exercise and further utilizing snowball sampling. However, individuals in policy and/or technical positions within the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the World Food Programme (WFP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the World Health Organization (WHO) will be initial points of approach for interview. (UWK)

**2.4 Roundtable.** In a second step, the policy briefs produced by country teams will be discussed with global-level policy stakeholders to elucidate the level of (dis)connect between policy levels. This roundtable will on the one hand, aim to generate further research findings on the potential for holistic approaches across both policy silos and levels. On the other hand, it will also provide an opportunity for informal dissemination of research results. (UWK)

**2.5 Writing a thematic report and article on the governance landscape.** Both a report and journal article will pull together the findings from the mapping exercise and both rounds of interviews in formats that are targeted at stakeholder and scientific communities respectively. (UWK)

#### **Deliverables**

2.1 Country policy briefs (M 12)

2.2 Thematic report on the governance landscape (M 24)

2.4 Workshop on integrated governance models and mobility leading to an ed. vol. or special issue (M 28)

2.3 Article on the integrated governance models (M 30)

### **Cluster 3. Case Studies in STPs: Food Security and Belonging**

Duration: Month 2-35

Co-lead(s): OzU & EQUIT

This case study focuses on the link between economic, environmental and social conditions of migration by looking at how food access and supply (food insecurity), humanitarian food assistance, and what we call “food practices of belonging” drive migration, enhance post-migration integration and affect human well-being. Accordingly, this Cluster has the following objectives:

- 5 Study the key social contexts that create and exacerbate food insecurity to determine root political, economic and environmental causes of insecurity;
- 6 Research the implementation and policy context of humanitarian food programs for displaced people before and after migration;
- 7 Examine how vulnerable individuals are involved in food production and preparation before and after migration;
- 8 Analyze post-migration food sovereignty and migrant food-based strategies for creating belonging in host societies.
- 9 Characterize the resistance and creative adaptation strategies of different kinds by individual migrants and/or organized migrants and their diversified groups of belonging.

The cluster uses anthropological, psychological and sociological methods and collaborates with CSOs to zoom-in on three dimensions of the food-migration nexus in the cases of migrants 1) from the Middle East in Turkey, Iraq, Austria and Sweden; 2) internal migrants in Argentina; 3) Venezuelan, Haitian and Cuban migrants in Brazil (Rio/Amazon and São Paulo); and 4) Dominican, Venezuelan, and Cuban migrants in Uruguay. All the country cases will seek to reach diverse groups, according to gender, race, LGBTQ+ and other categories.

#### **Tasks**

**3.1 Framework Paper.** Write a framework paper delineating the main conceptualizations of “Food Sovereignty and Belonging” to be used in the case study. (OzU & EQUIT)

**3.2 Fieldwork.** The three dimensions to be explored are:

- *Food access and supply (food insecurity and sovereignty):* Through 15 life story interviews with migrants, we explore the role of food insecurity in prompting migration. We will also examine their level of knowledge of government economic and environmental policies affecting food supply. We will foreground the experience of vulnerable social groups by considering how some places have a long history of being exposed to natural or human-made Global Changes and how this leads to culturally and historically specific coping mechanisms.
- *Humanitarian food assistance:* Using a series of 3 focus groups, we will analyze migrant perceptions of food in reception conditions, cultural norms impacting food aid, and government and (I)NGO food aid and charitable giving during the integration phase after migration.
- *Food practices of belonging:* Using participant observation (±80-100 hours) and 5 kino-eye (online digital diaries), this sub-project examines how migrants negotiate their place in their new societies via cooking and food exchanges. We will ask participants to show us how they picture their belonging and as a way of giving participants a voice in the research process.

(OzU, Brazil - Rio Team, Uruguay, IIASA, Sweden, ACDH Argentina)

**3.3 Database.** Create a database of coded material for use in Cluster 5. (All involved partners)

**3.4 Report and Article Writing.** In a thematic report, all country cases will be analyzed and integrated. In addition, an article will be written. (OzU)

#### **Deliverables**

3.1 Framework paper - “Food Sovereignty and Belonging - a state of the art guide.” (M 8)

3.2 Thematic report on “Food Vulnerability in the Face of Global Change.” (M 24)

3.3 A comparative article on “Cooking up Belonging as a Refugee:” (M 33)

3.4 An edited volume highlighting unique country case findings. (M 35)



## **Cluster 4. Case Studies in STPs: Existential Crises and Resilience**

Duration: M 2-30

Co-lead (s): UU & Cuerpo y Energía

This cluster will contribute to an understanding of how the fear of cultural extinction, destruction and exclusion among vulnerable populations is expressed on an existential level. We will make use of the ADAPT model (The Adaptation and Development After Torture and Persecution), developed by D. Silove (2013). This complex model covers the essential life systems of safety, justice, interpersonal bonds and networks, role and identity, linking these to existential meaning. The following objectives will guide this cluster:

- In a mixed method approach, using semi-structured interviews and surveys, we will study the experiences and level of existential fear among vulnerable populations.
- Through a systematic classification of determinants and by the use of the ADAPT model, we will build a typology for individual and collective resilience on an existential level.
- We will analyze the implications of these results for policy level, concerning health diagnostics and health care services as well as mental health issues.
- We will compare similarities and differences across a selection of populations and contexts.
- We will identify emic terms for the expression of existential fear, which may best link to Western concepts used in health care.

We will use a combination of cross-sectional, longitudinal, and experimental designs as well as qualitative findings from previous Cluster results to map the trajectory of resilience behaviour and group processes that ensure collective awareness, shared emotional and rational responses to risk factors, and joint commitment to solving common problems.

Sampling for the interviews covers six case studies (Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Iraq, Turkey, and Sweden) and vulnerable populations relevant for each country. The number of interviews will reach approximately 20 individuals for each country, balanced by gender and the different populations. Sampling for the survey covers the same geographical areas and populations as above (n=500) and is following a representative random sampling frame. We will conduct an electronic survey, using companies like Prolific or similar. The survey covers the four items from the fear of cultural extinction instrument (Nickerson et al., 2009) and six items linking to Cluster 1, environmental fear, authority trust, economic problems, social issues, network availability, and political conflicts, resistance and creative adaptation.

### **Tasks:**

**4.1 Framework paper** This task will elaborate on the central concepts to be used, prior research, and limitations, to set the framework for future research. (UU).

**4.2 Create Guidelines.** This task will develop the interview and survey contents, the ethical clearance, and the methodological framework for data gathering, data coding, and analysis. (UU)

**4.3 Data Collection.** As a first step we will do a literature review and look at the studies which are recently conducted with similar groups. Subsequently, we will conduct semi-structured interviews (each country n=10-15), which will also inform the survey items. Then, implement a representative electronic survey (each country n=500), with statistical results and analyses. (UU, OzU, IIASA, UNICAMP, EQUIT, ACDH, CE)

**4.4 Database.** Create a database of coded material for use in Cluster 5.

**4.5 Thematic Reports.** Write two thematic reports. (UU and the other partners)

### **Deliverables:**

4.1 Thematic report based on interviews: “Narratives and fear among vulnerable populations” (M 12)

4.2 Survey report: “Fear of cultural extinction across vulnerable populations and regions” (M 24)

4.3 Article “Existential crises: Fear of cultural extinction and resilience” (M 30)

## **Cluster 5: Interdisciplinary Knowledge Synthesis of PHOENIX**

Duration: M 24-36

Co-lead(s): IIASA, GU, UU & OzU

The main objectives of this research cluster are to examine the correspondences between the various disciplines studying mobility, Global Change and resilience brought together during the course of the project. By synthesizing the project results regarding climate mobilities and risks, politics of food and mental health, and socio-cultural transformations, this cluster adds to the interdisciplinary diagnostic and prognostic toolbox of Global Change and mobility, vulnerability and resilience assessment, ensuring maximum impact for PHOENIX.

A promising interdisciplinary avenue to explore in regards to strengthening humanity's resilience to socio-environmental Global Challenges is to learn from the systems and processes of natural ecosystems, such as balancing a system's efficiency and diversity/redundancy, modularity, a long-term perspective toward the cyclical nature of tipping points, adaptability, and bouncing-forward (Kharrazi et al., 2016; 2020). In nature, such systems-level approaches towards strengthening resilience are advanced concurrent to growth and development. Human-centered systems, however, have traditionally been resistant to investing towards resilience as it has been viewed as weakening the efficiency of growth. However, these nature-inspired solutions to resilience could bring new insights for solutions to Global Challenges and transform our perception of resilience not as a cost to growth and development but as a critical 'public good'.

### Tasks

**5.1 STP Modeling.** The first task is to inductively trace and map the puzzles to which resilience, coping, justice and resistance is presented as a solution when confronting Global Change (eg. Sen, 2009). We will then develop a model of environmental, governance, and political indicators; economic, social, and cultural drivers by gender, race, generation and geographical region; and ICT enabled social capital with regards to (im-)mobility and vulnerability based on the database created in Cluster 1 and the findings of Cluster 2-4. We will identify the factors that impact STPs as follows: 1) *Governance*: in combination with what factors does meta-governance failure contribute to STPs? 2) *Food security and belonging*: in combination with what factors do food issues become STPs? 3) *Community survival and resilience*: in combination with what factors does fear about cultural survival become a STP? The goal of this interdisciplinary model will be to identify the a) relevant, but often overlooked sub-policy areas (i.e., agriculture, health, cultural identities and diversification); b) local-transnational governance effects, gaps, overlaps and failures; c) contextual factors - economic, social, cultural and historical - that create vulnerabilities and (im-)mobilities; d) the role of agency in determining the impact and experience of STPs. (IIASA and GU with help of all partners)

**5.2 Identifying Hotspots and develop scenarios.** Based on the abovementioned STP modeling and the potential use of nature-inspired resilience frameworks, in a **brainstorming workshop** we will identify hotspots of migration and develop different scenarios to specify nodal risks and opportunities for interventions to strengthen resilience. Findings will be reflected in a **report**. (All)

**5.3 Organize an academic workshop and write an edited volume.** The contributions of the workshop on *Human Mobility, Global Challenges and Resilience in an Age of Social Stress and Societal Transformations* will be turned into an ed. vol.. (OzU, UU and all involved partners)

### Deliverables:

5.1 Interactive **online graphical representation** of STP model (M 30)

5.2 **Brainstorming workshop (and report)** on *Climate Mobility Hotspots, Global Challenges: Developing Scenarios* (M 33)

5.3 **Academic workshop**, leading to an edited vol. or a special issue (M 36).

### *c. Competence and expertise; complementarities of consortium; transdisciplinary approaches; global geographical diversity*

PHOENIX's wide-ranging consortium aims to produce not only multidisciplinary scientific innovation, but also new approaches that actively assist policymakers in different fields and specifically address targeted policy-frameworks and governance trends in meeting challenges: empowering purposeful decisions in the face of overwhelming choices or incomplete datasets, and building bridges between experts on the one hand and an uncertain public on the other, considering the inclusion of civic society institutions and their visions from its very beginning.

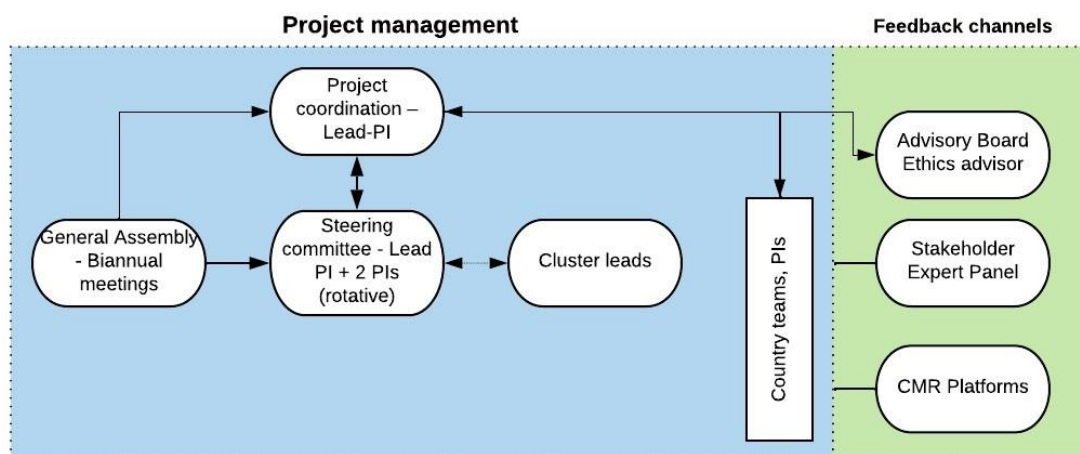
<b>The Consortium at a Glance</b>			
<b>Expertise area</b>	<i>Climate science and climate mobilities specialists</i> (GU, UWK, IIASA)	<i>Governance, law and policy experts</i> (UU, UWK, Unicamp, ACDH)	<i>Migration, mobilities, inequalities and gender</i> (OzU, UU, EQUIT, ACDH, Cuerpo y energia)
<b>Disciplines</b>	<i>Natural sciences</i> (GU, IIASA, Unicamp)	<i>Social science</i> (UWK, UU, OzU, EQUIT, ACDH, Cuerpo y energia)	
<b>Organization type</b>	<i>Universities</i> (OzU, UU, GU, UWK, Unicamp)	<i>NGOs &amp; Research institutes</i> (IIASA, EQUIT, ACDH, Cuerpo y energia)	
<b>Geographical scope</b>	<i>South America</i>	<i>Europe</i>	<i>Middle East</i>

The **Lead-PI**, Asst. Prof. Dr. Rottmann from OzU is an anthropologist and expert on refugee migration, gender and vulnerability. Based on long-term qualitative fieldwork in Turkey, she has published extensively on migration aspirations, gender, economics and belonging for migrants between Syria, Turkey and Europe. The project is **co-led** by the experienced project coordinator, Soner Barthoma, a political scientist specializing in governance based at **Uppsala U**. Barthoma is an expert on governance and has published extensively on crisis governance and ethnic and religious minorities in Turkey and Europe. Barthoma is joined by the **PI** from **UU**, Assoc. Prof. Cetrez, who is a cultural psychologist with expertise in resilience, coping, and health, and has an expansive knowledge on understanding vulnerabilities affecting risk management. Rottmann, Cetrez and Barthoma worked together on a previously funded [Horizon2020 project, RESPOND](#) studying migration governance. **Deliang Chen** is a world-renowned climate researcher based at Gothenburg U who will spearhead the GIS/Climate and Mobility Data Modeling of the project and contribute to the quantitative analysis of the data collected. **Sarah L. Nash** is a PI at University of Continuing Education Krems, a political scientist and leading expert on the governance of climate change and human mobilities, as well as global and European discourses on climate change and human mobilities. **Ali Kharrazi** is a sustainability scientist at the IIASA - Systemic Risk and Resilience Research Program and a leading expert in advancing the concept of resilience to water, energy, trade, and food systems. **Rafael Dias** is Assoc. Prof. at the Unicamp with experience in the areas of Science and Technology Studies and Innovation Policies. **María J. L. Beltran** is an ecologist feminist lawyer and an Environmental Law Specialist. **Pable Zuleta** is an expert on gender and migration and is the PI from the NGO **CE** and a Prof. at the University Bernardo O'Higgins in Chile. **The team in Brazil based at EQUIT focuses on Rio and the Amazon and is led by PI** Graciela Rodriguez who has directed several national and international projects focusing on macroeconomics and gender issues, especially following the debates on Feminist Economics with organized women's groups in Brazil and the Mercosur region. **Rasigan Maharajh**, PI from South Africa is Director of the Institute for Economic Research on Innovation at Tshwane University of Technology and a prominent scholar in Science, Technology and Innovation studies. **Isabel Bortagaray**, PI from Uruguay, is an expert in the field of innovation, science and technology policy, institutions and technological capabilities in developing countries.

Our team possesses distinctive skill-sets in key fields of methodology and research design, including, but not limited to, computational, AI, survey, interview, discourse and content analytic, ethnographic, action and participatory methods. PHOENIX brings together researchers who have studied Global Changes in various disciplinary capacities, which, together with the complementary, interdisciplinary research design, will ensure a comprehensive evidence base for policymakers and practitioners.

## Management plan

The project management task will be undertaken by Ozyegin University (Lead-PI, Rottmann) and Uppsala University (Barthoma). The project coordinators will be responsible for the everyday management monitoring, preparation of the meeting agendas, and financial and administrative management of the project. The lead PIs at each institution will form a **steering committee (SC)** with rotating membership, which will have monthly online meetings and constantly interact to ensure effective collaboration and progress. Coordination tasks are divided into two strands: Scientific management ensures the quality of the research process and outcomes. This includes the overall coordination of the project, quality assurance and monitoring as well as establishing and consulting with the board of advisors and ethics advisor, and scientific reporting. An **advisory board** will monitor the project activities from the initial stage through to the end, giving feedback and making recommendations, which will be directly shared with all project partners. Administrative management supports the timely and efficient implementation of the work plan, the maintenance of administrative contacts, financial management and reporting. Each Principal Investigator will be responsible for the coordination of the project work in his/her country. Considering the complexity of the research tasks, we have introduced **co-leadership** in all clusters to strengthen the cooperation level among partners.



Another important management dimension is to identify procedures for evaluation cycles, the quality assurance plan, and internal meetings and reporting. In order to coordinate the multifaceted tasks and to establish fruitful links between different clusters both at theoretical and policy levels, we plan to hold regular **biannual consortium meetings**. Together with the kick-off meeting, we will organize **three face-to-face consortium meetings** (interim and final meetings) and three online meetings. The first meeting will be hosted by OzU in Istanbul. At least one of the two remaining meetings will be hosted by our partners in South America. These working meetings will be in a workshop format, designed to discuss theoretical aspects, work on common outputs and publications, provide an opportunity to evaluate our works/activities and plan for the upcoming period. In addition, cluster leads will organize bi-monthly meetings with the team members to coordinate the cluster work. In order to monitor the work progress, each participant will present a short biannual activity report together with an interim (M17) and a final report (M36).

### *Ethical governance*

The study involves human participants, which is based on voluntariness and informed consent, as guided by the Declaration of Helsinki, 1964. We will ensure that all researchers involved are familiar with the new requirements of the agreed data Protection Act, 2018 -Regulation (EU) 2016/679 regarding the processing of personal data. We collect limited personal data (voice recording) and

sensitive personal information (health, ethnicity, religious or philosophical conviction, and possibly political opinion or sexual orientation if the conversation leads to it). **The research doesn't include minors under the age of 18, patients, nor individuals who due to sickness or disability are unable to give informed consent.** At the core of this research project are vulnerable individuals and groups who have experienced a crisis, among these migrants and refugees due to war or natural disasters. In order to protect these individuals and groups and to avoid stigmatization, research participants will be treated with the utmost care and sensitivity all the while being respectful of their values and right to make their own decisions regarding the information they provide us. We will avoid collecting information that is not essential to our specific research aim and this information will be totally confidential (i.e. collected without names, to avoid unexpected misuse). At the same time, we also aim to make our research relevant for the communities involved, by increasing their knowledge on crises. Since we will collect data from various countries, for each country, we will prepare an ethical application according to the rules of the respective country.

The PI at UU, Dr. Cetrez, who is the scientific secretary in the Swedish Ethical Review Authority, will be responsible for the ethical governance of the project and work in close collaboration with the lead-PI.

### Management Tasks

- **Biannual project meetings.** Project meetings will be merged with internal workshops on the research topic. Apart from these clusters will have regular bimonthly meetings in order to coordinate the work. (D7.1: Month 1, 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36)
- **Board of advisors (AB).** From the start of the project the AB will be actively involved with reviewing the research reports, assessing the scientific quality of findings and attending project review meetings. The members of the advisory board are:
  - [Ruth M. Shortall](#), PhD, European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC), Petten, Netherlands
  - [Ayhan Kaya](#), Prof., Istanbul Bilgi University, Turkey
  - [Júlio Lancellotti](#), Priest & Educator, São Paulo
- **Quality assurance plan (QAP).** The lead-PI will prepare a QAP describing the methods and procedures to be followed to ensure the quality of the envisaged outcomes and deliverables and the list of measurable milestones and quality parameters in relation to the work plan. (D7.2: Month 2)
- **Developing ethics guidelines and submission of ethical applications.** Developing ethical guidelines (based on GDPR, 2016/679) will include defining personal and sensitive data, developing a template for information and consent letters, procedures for anonymisation of fieldwork data, and an evaluation of risk and benefits for participants. The lead-PI together with PI at UU will prepare a common ethical application guideline document, which will be adjusted by country teams based on their specific research/impact tasks. Each country will submit its own ethical application to their national ethical authorities. No empirical research requiring ethical approval will start prior to this. (D7.3: Month 1-6)
- **Data management plan (DMP).** The DMP which will define the tasks and duties regarding research data quality, sharing and security will be prepared at the start of the project. The DMP, including the principles of FAIR, is a living document, being developed throughout the project duration. (Lead: OzU and UU). (D7.4: Month 3)
- **Scientific and Financial reporting** will be done at the end of each reporting period (D7.5: Month 18 and 36).

### Roles and Responsibilities

**Ozyegin University (Turkey):** Susan Rottmann, a lecturer in Anthropology and migration expert, will oversee the academic management of the project, actively participate in all Clusters, lead Cluster 3, and conduct research in Turkey, contributing to Clusters 3 and 4 (survey). She will also co-lead the work of Cluster 5.

**Uppsala University (Sweden):** Soner Barthoma, political scientist will support the consortium leader in everyday management and coordination work and conduct research in Cluster 2; Onver Cetrez, assoc. professor in Psychology of Religion will lead the Uppsala team, responsible for the ethical governance of the project, and lead Cluster 4.

**University of Gothenburg (Sweden)** Deliang Chen is a professor in Geoinformatics and Physical Meteorology who will be responsible for creating the database including all needed climate information. He will be leading cluster 1 and advise in cluster 5.

**University of Continuing Education Krems (Austria):** Sarah Louise Nash, a postdoctoral political scientist and expert on climate and human mobility policy is leading Cluster 2 and contributing to Cluster 5.

**IIASA (Austria):** Ali Kharrazi, a sustainability scientist will co-lead Cluster 5 and contribute to case studies in Austria in Cluster 3 and 4.

**University of Campinas (Universidade Estadual de Campinas - UNICAMP) (Brazil):** Rafael de Brito Dias is Associate Professor from the University of Campinas' School of Applied Sciences, will be the PI of the UNICAMP team, coordinating the research in the State of São Paulo, Brazil. The UNICAMP team will work on clusters 2, 3 and 4.

**EQUIT (Brazil-Rio/Amazon):** The Team at EQUIT focuses on data collection and analysis for the RIO and Amazon areas for Cluster 3 and 4.

**Cuerpo y energia (Chile):** The team in Chile focuses on data collection and analysis in Chile for Cluster 4.

**Asociacion Ciudadana por los Derechos Humanos/ Universidad de Buenos Aires (Argentina):** María José Lubertino Beltrán a feminist ecologist PhD in Law especialiezed in environmet and former MP, resarcher and professor at Buenos Aires University will be focusing on data collection and analysis for Argentina for Cluster 3 and 4.

**Tshwane University of Technology** (South Africa) team will contribute to Cluster 2, 3, 4 and 5 and contribute data for Cluster 1.

**Universidad de la Republica Uruguay:** Isabel Bortagaray will work on Cluster 2 and 3 and contribute to Cluster 4 and 5.

### Milestones, Risks and Mitigation Strategies

The Consortium defines “success” in three points: first, the preparation and submission of the deliverables on time; second, the (scientific) quality of the deliverables; and third, as the impact of the deliverables, that is, the exploitation of the results by targeted groups. As specified in the below table the project has identified biannual milestones to evaluate and monitor the progress of the project and means of verification to measure achievements.

	Milestone name	Date	Means of verification
1	Overall project organization and planning <i>Time plan:</i> Month 6, 12, 18, 24, 30 and 36	1-36	Biannual meetings, monthly Steering Com. meetings, and periodic partner reports

2	Ethics, Data management plan; Dissemination and Communication plan; Guidelines for all clusters and interview//survey questionnaire;	1-6	Guidelines ready and ethical applications are submitted; DMP, Dissemination and Communication plans are ready; training modules is organized
3	CMRs; Project website and social media accounts.	1-8	CMRs are established; website and social media accounts are online.
4	Framework paper (Cluster3); database (Cluster 1); survey data collection (Cluster 4); country policy briefs (Cluster2);	6-12	Database is published (Cluster1) and Cluster 2 and 3 deliverables are ready; survey is subcontracted.
5	Fieldwork for Cluster 3 and 4), kinoeyes (Dis)	12-18	Survey and interviews are finalized; kinoeyes are online
6	Interim evaluation cycle, reporting, and training module	16-18	Evaluation reports are collected; interim project review meeting
7	Thematic deliverables in Cluster2, and 3; survey report (Cluster4);	18-24	Deliverables are ready and published..
8	Academic workshop and article in Cluster 2; article in Cluster 4; Social tipping model in Cluster 5; policy briefs and digital galley (dis,).	24-30	All articles and policy briefs are ready on time; the digital gallery and the workshop are organized.
9	Academic workshops in Cluster 5; Draft-edited vol. for Cluster 3; final dissemination events	30-36	Final deliverables are submitted on time; all dataset are finished; workshops are organized; draft version of the special issues are ready

In the below table, we have identified potential risks (in three scales: Low/Medium/High) and mitigation measures:

#### Risks and mitigation-measures

Description of risk (Low/Medium/High)	Proposed risk-mitigation measures
Delays in the implementation of tasks. [Low]	The lead-PI, supported by the steering com and cluster leaders will set time limits, and give collegial support.
Difficulty in establishing and maintaining CMRs and stakeholder expert panels. [Low/Medium]	The coordinators will monitor the Platform activities through biannual reports. In case of insufficiency, they will arrange extra meetings.

Some interviewees do not want to participate in interviews in some countries. [Medium]	Other interviewees will be selected according to similar sampling criteria.
PHOENIX activities pose privacy risks to participants or the wider public [Low/medium]	Strict ethical guidelines will be established throughout the project, including a commitment to anonymity of participants.
Survey outcomes may be affected by attrition. [Medium]	In case the attrition rates are higher than estimated, we will supplement new respondents with a back-up time plan (delay: no more than 3 months).
Conflicts among partners arise. [Low]	The SC will mediate to find a consensual solution and, in case of no solution, take a binding decision.

### 3. Impact, engagement, and dissemination plan

*Duration: Month 1-36*

PHOENIX's research and impact frameworks are designed to develop a holistic approach to Global change that focuses on climate mobilities, social tipping points and community resilience. Our impact strategy promotes **a holistic agenda to build resilient communities**, whereby we, from an interdisciplinary perspective will develop innovative tools, methods, guidelines (or rebranding of traditional know-hows) in order to mitigate risks, strengthen preparedness and response levels of communities and organizations and facilitate effective pathways to resilience.

PHOENIX's dissemination and communication plan will target three main groups:

- (1) Stakeholders: policy-makers, practitioners, relevant civil society organizations both at local, national and transnational levels,
- (2) General public (affected communities in our case studies and wider publics), and
- (3) Scientific community (scholars of climate/environmental studies, of migration, governance and risk studies)

The full **dissemination & communication plan** will be detailed together with a time schedule in the project's kick off meeting. The impact-related deliverables according to the target audiences are as follows:

Channel	Activity	Impact indicator
Policy impact	<b>Stakeholder Expert Panels (SEP):</b> In order to engage with key local and national actors, in all partner countries stakeholder expert panels will be formed. Each partner will target to connect at least with 10 experts in their local settings. These experts will engage with our research findings and provide critical feedback. Furthermore, partners will aim to organise joint activities with the panel members within the framework of CMR platforms, such as public lectures and seminars, local workshops, joint op-ed articles and policy briefs. In the final year of the project, a specific policy workshop will be organized to bring together SEPs from different countries to discuss the policy relevant aspects of the PHOENIX	Connecting with at least 80 experts



	research. (D6.1: Month 6)	
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Public impact	<p><b>Climate Mobilities and Resilience Platforms</b> (henceforth <i>CMR</i>) in all partner countries (n=8) as the main channel of public impact with the aim of raising awareness, creating a synergy platform to predict social tipping points and encourage community resilience. CMRs will be jointly established with local SEPs, municipalities and civil society actors; from a bottom-up approach bringing various actors (citizens, local authorities, civil society organizations, migrant/community organizations and scientific community) together. Within the framework of CMRs, seminars, workshops, cultural activities will be organized. Each country team will develop a detailed activity plan and aim to organize at least three activities throughout the project’s lifetime. (D6.2: Month 9)</p>	<p>Establishing 8 CMRs</p> <p>Organizing 24 activities</p>
Policy impact	<p><b>Policy briefs:</b> Following the empirical case studies, a series of policy briefs will be completed that highlight the openings for climate (im)mobilities to be productively linked to social tipping points and inserted into these policy areas, while also contributing to the normalization of climate (im)mobilities at the policy level. These policy briefs will be actively disseminated to decision-makers and policy negotiators to help inform their policy agendas. (D6.4: Month 30-36)</p>	<p>n= 16 policy briefs</p>
Public impact	<p><b>Kino-eye videocast series:</b> By using the <b>kino-eye</b> technique, PHOENIX will produce a “<b>My [Resilience] Story</b>” <b>videocast</b> series mapping experiences and coping strategies of people in social tipping point cases. (D6.3: Month 28)</p>	<p>n= 1 video per country (in total 9)</p>
Public impact	<p><b>Digital Art Gallery:</b> Using insights from critical heritage studies, in a <b>digital art gallery</b>, PHOENIX will connect with local artists to curate an online exhibition under the theme “Social tipping points, Human Mobility &amp; Community Resilience” (D6.5: Month 30)</p>	<p>n= 1 digital gallery</p>
Scientific impact	<p><b>Academic workshops:</b> PHOENIX will organize four academic workshops that will lead to special issues and/or edited volumes, linked to one in Cluster 2, and two in Cluster 5. (D6.6: Month 24-36)</p>	<p>n= 3 workshops and 3 edited volumes/special issues based on the work conducted in different Clusters</p>

Public impact	<b>Dissemination channels:</b> PHOENIX will launch a representative website, use social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube) to disseminate project findings, deliverables and activities.	n= 5
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Overall, the project promises to have both a strong scientific and also policy-oriented impact during and beyond its lifetime. The interdisciplinary nature of the project as well as its geographical scope will enable the project team to address Global challenges in different regions from a comparative perspective. The project will provide new knowledge regarding climate mobilities, social tipping points and resilient governance models, mechanisms and pathways to community resilience, enhancing preparedness of governments, agencies, local authorities, non-governmental organizations. At a scientific level, the project will generate impact through academic workshops, publications and datasets, accessible to other scholars via open-access data repositories.

As will be detailed in PHOENIX' Data Management Plan, all data gathered in different clusters will be stored both at partner institutions (at country level) and centrally at UU's data repository which will be managed by the UU team together with OzU. Data will be curated at the country level where it is collected. This will be monitored and checked at the central level by UU and OzU. Furthermore, all deliverables will be published and made open in different academic journals and in the EC funded open access repository Zenodo. Except for the sensitive data, all data will be open to the wider scientific community latest by the end of the project. We have allocated a sum for supporting open access publications. In addition, consortium members will apply for extra sources for financing open access publishing.

**Organization of impact activities:** PHOENIX's dissemination strategy will be coordinated by OzU and UU. Geographically each partner will be responsible for the active and wide dissemination of the project at local levels aiming to establish new collaborations and maximize the use of project results.

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