

climate displacement

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: To explore how communities are adapting to displacement caused by natural disasters and how governments can better serve these individuals and communities.

VIDEOS:



To the Main Land: Carti Sugdup's Solution (Panama)
Indigenous organizer Blas Lopez works with local architects to redesign his island community on higher grounds.



A Sinking Island (New Zealand)
Ioane Teitiota of Kiribati was among the first to apply for climate refugee status in New Zealand.



Salt Resistant Seeds (India)
The Sagar Island Women's Collective is cultivating salt resistant seeds and organic farming methods to cope with rising waters.



Displaced Lives (Bangladesh) Prabal Barua pressures the government to allocate land and services for displaced coastal residents, many of whom end up in slum areas adjacent to big cities.

QUESTIONS:

- List reasons why communities in the videos have decided to migrate. List reasons that people stay.
- How do questions of class, gender or oppression intersect with migration?
- How can governments and communities plan for the anticipated waves of displaced people?
- Can a community relocate without losing its identity and traditions?
- What are the places closest to you that are threatened by unsustainable development, rising waters or environmental destruction?
- Are there communities that live there? How are they or might they be impacted?

ACTIVITIES:

- Research refugee groups that have been displaced because of climate issues.
- Plan an activity for World Refugee Day on to bring attention to this issue.
- Show short films and invite a speaker working on these issues locally.
- Share what you are doing with other schools, groups or organizations

RESOURCES:

- No One Is Illegal
nooneisillegal.org/
- Facts about refugees
ccrweb.ca/en/myths-facts
- Undoing Border Imperialism by Harsha Walia
unsettlingamerica.wordpress.com/2013/11/13/undoing-border-imperialism/

KEYWORDS:

displacement, sea level rise, housing, heritage, flooding, storms, agriculture, gender, tourism, fishing