

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Climate, Health & Population Vulnerability

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PRESS RELEASE

EXPERTS CALL FOR INCLUSIVE CLIMATE & HEALTH POLICIES AT PRC KARACHI ROUNDTABLE

The Population Research Centre (PRC) at IBA Karachi, in collaboration with the Karachi Urban Lab, convened the first round of its Climate Dialogue Series, titled "Climate, Health & Population Vulnerability", at the IBA City Campus.

The roundtable brought together demographers, public health experts, social scientists, urban researchers, and media professionals to discuss how climate stressors are straining public health systems and disproportionately impacting vulnerable populations—especially women, children, and the urban poor.

Dr. Khadija Bari, Director PRC, opened the session by highlighting the Centre's work and the importance of viewing climate challenges through a population and equity lens. Mr. Mohammad Toheed, Acting Director of the Karachi Urban Lab, presented the current climate-health landscape, drawing attention to the compounded vulnerabilities faced by marginalized communities in Karachi, particularly during heatwaves, floods, and extreme weather events.

The dialogue featured valuable contributions, including Yasir Hussain from the Climate Action Centre, who stressed the need for community-level data and better evaluation of government programs. Dr. Mehtab Karim, President of the Population Association of Pakistan, concluded the session by emphasizing the strategic role of population research in guiding climate adaptation policy.

The discussion closed with a call for inclusive, evidence-based climate policies that center vulnerable communities and actively involve civil society. Participants stressed the need to bridge research and policymaking to build climate-resilient urban futures in Pakistan.

