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## The Causes and Consequences of Flood-induced Temporary Displacement in Southwest Coastal Bangladesh

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### ABSTRACT

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The main objective of this study was to explore the causes and consequences of flood-induced temporary displacement in southwest coastal Bangladesh. To investigate this, we purposively select one village; Hazrakhali, under the Satkhira district as our study area. This project has been carried out by following a qualitative research approach. Data for this study is collected through in-depth interviews conducted with 20 household heads who were selected using snowball sampling. The findings show that the dominant causes of temporary displacement in that area include economic challenges, the fear of losing their social connections, and a deep attachment to their cultural heritage. This temporary displacement had long-term negative consequences for their livelihoods in terms of poverty, rehabilitation problems, food insecurity, income diversification, hygiene and sanitation troubles, scarcity of edible water, etc. These findings will advocate for policymakers and disaster management bodies to address and mitigate the impacts of flood-affected miseries induced by displacement in the region.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Bangladesh is one of the countries most affected by climate change (Call et al, 2017; Assaduzzaman et al, 2020). The country ranks seventh among countries vulnerable to extreme weather events (Global Climate Risk Index [GCRI], 2021) and is frequently affected by floods, cyclones, and storms due to its unique geographical location (Islam & Hasan, 2016; Ahmad & Afzal, 2020). Almost 80% of the country consists of the flood plains of the GBM (Ganges, Brahmaputra, and Meghna) basins (Islam et al., 2017; Hossain et al., 2020). From 1971 to 2019, the country experienced 89 floods (Mondal et al., 2020), and nearly 20% of the country's land mass was affected by floods (Islam et al., 2017).

Extreme weather events, such as floods, are causing significant challenges for vulnerable populations, impacting economic activity, agriculture, property, public health, and livelihoods (Kartiki, 2011; Ahmad & Afzal, 2020). Floods pose a significant threat to riverine communities worldwide, leading to population displacement and economic and social costs (Moniruzzaman, 2015; Barua et al., 2019). Extreme weather conditions have caused temporal or permanent global displacement of 26.4 million people in 2023, with 9.8 million displaced by floods (UNHCR, 2024, Black et al., 2011; Kakinuma et al., 2020,). People are displaced annually by river erosion and 600 thousands by the effects of extreme weather events, including floods (Islam & Hasan, 2016). The displacement in the country is due to the increasing sea level, flood, and erosion of riverbanks (CDMP II, 2014). The magnitude and scope of this change are expected to increase dramatically in the coming years, resulting in approximately 250 million people being permanently displaced by 2050 (Naser et al., 2019; Cattanco et al., 2019; Carrico & Donato, 2019).

Flood intensity and frequency can cause people to leave affected areas, temporarily displaced on nearby plateaus or roads, but return home when floodwaters recede (Morrissey, 2009; Ferris, 2011). Many studies focus on permanent displacement and long-distance displacement from affected areas (e.g., Warner et al. 2009; Kartiki, 2011; Islam and Hasan et al. 2016), but few studies focus on local-level displacement, where people are temporarily displaced in their localities. Thus, the conducted research sheds light on the flood-induced temporary displacement of people and was oriented to connect with multiple linkages between the flood effects and temporary displacement in the recurrent flood-inundated coastal areas of 'Satkhira' in Bangladesh. In particular, the study aims to use qualitative methods (in-depth interviews) to explore how temporarily displaced people consider the challenges of loss and destruction, sources of income, and occupational changes associated with floods and displacement.

The primary objectives of this study are twofold: firstly, to investigate the reason behind their temporary displacements and secondly, particularly concerning their demographic characteristics. This research will significantly provide a fresh insight into the field of migration, with a specific emphasis on displacement at the local level. Because the vast majority of population displacement occurs on small spatial and temporal scales rather than on long-term or permanent scales (Call et al., 2017). The main purpose of the study is to explore the causes and consequences of temporary displacement experienced by floodaffected people in southwest coastal Bangladesh.

#### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

To explore the causes and consequences of flood-induced temporary displacement, Hazrakhali village in Assasuni Upazilla in Satkhira district was selected as a case study for this study. Before selecting the village, the principal researcher conducted a pilot survey and the researcher found that the selected village was badly affected by "Aila" and "Sidr" and almost every year it was flooded because three rivers Kholpetia, Golghasia, and Kopatakkho converge in the village which makes it extremely vulnerable to floods. Consequently, the villagers suffered great loss and damage and were in great distress. To investigate, the study has chosen qualitative research as a more appropriate methodology because, through qualitative research, we can explore a wide array of dimensions of the social world, including the texture and weave of everyday life, the understandings, experiences, and imaginings of our research participants (Mason, 2002).

To collect data from the respondents, this study utilized the snowball technique to select respondents and gather data. The first author, with the help of an acquaintance, met with a villager from the selected village who had lived there for a long time. The researcher sought households that had been displaced and returned to their original place. This study has chosen in-depth interviews as the principal method because it provides enormous benefits to migration studies. In this respect, 20 potential interviewees, have been selected. The interviews were in conversational format with more open questions guided by a pre-worked interview guide which gathered data on their socio-economic background, the effects of frequent displacements on their lives, and the reasons behind their temporary displacements instead of a permanent migration.

The method of data analysis was thematic. The first author at first listened to audio-recorded interviews twice and then transcribed all recordings and transcriptions into English. Then we categorized all data that corresponded to a certain theme and research question. Different names were used for each separate node which helped us to analyze different themes. During analysis, we used parts of dialogue from the interviews relevant to the corresponding themes.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

# Socio-Demographic Characteristics of The Research Participants

The socio-demographic characteristics include some factors such as age, education, occupation, and income (Table 1).

Socio-demographic Characteristics	Category	Percentage
Gender	Male	85%
	Female	15%
Age (years)	30-40	25%
	40-50	40%
	50-60	20%
	Above 60	15%
Education	Literate	50%
	Primary education	45%
	Higher Secondary	5%
Occupation	Day laborer	65%
	Vegetable vendor	15%
	Farmer	15%
	Tailor	5%
Monthly Income (BDT)	7500-9000TK	75%
	9000-13000 TK	20%
	Above 13000 TK	5%

Table 1. Socio-demographic information of the participants

The above table provides the state of the displaced population and implies the latent reasons behind displacement. In my study, among the 20 respondents, there were 17 males and 3 females. Most of the participants didn't receive any formal education. But all the respondents can sign. Among the various occupational groups, the majority of the respondents are day laborers and most of the respondent's daily income is around 250 to 300 TK (BDT).

#### Reasons Behind their Temporary Displacements Instead of A Permanent Migration

The study conducted in-depth interviews on the causes and consequences of temporal displacement about climate change viabilities caused by flooding, which are interpreted below.

1. Economic Hardship

Displacement is result of various а socioeconomic factors, including poverty, unemployment, income insecurity, and social chaos caused by flooding. Many respondents in case studies have to temporarily migrate due to a lack of funds to purchase land and move to safer areas during floods. They relocate to nearby areas during monsoons, storms, hail, or tidal floods, allowing easy return home after the flood subsides. Their statement is supported by numerous studies. For example, the Grantham Research Institute of Climate Change and the Environment's (2023) study reveals that climate change and floods submerge 55–60% of Bangladesh annually, causing \$1 billion in damage. Between 1971 and 2014, 78 floods claimed 41,783 lives and \$12.2 billion in economic damages. Moniruzzaman (2015) found that displaced people often return to their original administrative area due to high relocation costs, despite land loss. Saha (2017) found that households avoid migration despite Aila-induced losses, and Call et al. (2017) found that displaced people often move to short-distance locations after multiple displacements.

As one interviewee, Md. Rofi (a disasteraffected person), put it: Where else to go? We are poor people. Do we have any other way to go and buy land? We have to live here. After repairing the home, we will go there again (Rafi, male, 45). Another interviewee, when asked why they migrate temporarily, said: We have the desire to go, but we don't have the ability. We have to earn and save money, which is quite impossible for us in this situation (Haque, male, 55).

Rafi and Haque's views are true for the majority of the respondents in our study. The study reveals that most households have low living standards and inadequate facilities, living below the poverty line. Low income and frequent floods make it difficult for them to save money, preventing permanent migration. They are often temporarily displaced, but eventually, it becomes more affordable to resettle in their area. Wealthy individuals also had to leave their homes due to acute water scarcity, despite an influx of water.

In this context, a female respondent named Aklima described that floods don't always cause damage to homes. Often, we can manage to repair our houses by staying in cyclone shelters and working from there. Besides, not all the time we have to buy the stuff for building houses. As our house is made of mud from the village, we can manage it without paying. But in other unknown places, it will not be easy for us (Aklima, female, 40).

Aklima's statement revealed that during or immediately after a sudden disaster event, people tend to shift to nearby locations. There was less evidence of planned migration among the poor, possibly due to their increased insecurity about moving to a new place without kin or possible employment alternatives. The decision to migrate is influenced by hazard damage recoverability and financial resources for long-distance travel or distant relatives (Moniruzzaman, 2015; Paul et al. 2022; Chumky et al. 2022). However, we found in our study that some respondents have shared that they have a desire to leave this place if the government will help them. To illustrate, Rafiqul Islam mentioned: We are poor people. Where will we go? If the government gives us some 'khas' land, we will go there. Besides, if we want to go to another place, we have to earn more money and buy land. That's another problem. (Rafigul Islam, male, 45)

The statement indicates the poor are less likely to move permanently because they lack the financial resources to buy land and relocate. (Adnan et al. 2020). His viewpoint further indicates that if the government aids non-migrants in Bangladesh, they may permanently migrate from their area due to high relocation costs, potentially creating a poverty trap in the coastal region (Black et al., 2013; Borgomeo, 2018). They remain in coastal areas despite potential or actual exposure to climatic and environmental risks (Hossain, 2015; Bernzen et al., 2019).

#### 2. Fear to Lose Social Network

Social bondage is crucial in disaster response, as local residents often act as first responders, sharing joys and sorrows, and helping each other during difficult times, as organizations typically require 48–72 hours to reach affected areas, sometimes longer due to communication and access issues (Barua et al., 2019; Cooks 2015). Besides, Islam et al. (2017) suggested social networks help displaced people in returning and resettling in their original places. Similarly, our study found that some respondents avoided permanent migration due to fear of losing their social networks. As two interviewees noted: We have been in this area for so long. We know each other. Who knows us elsewhere? Who will help us there? (Akbar Ali, male, 60).

Will anyone recognize us that way in the new place? Here, we know each other. Even if we can't help each other with money, when we stay together, we get at least some confidence in our minds (Hakim Gazi, 65). Akbar Ali and Hakim Gazi's statements disclose that they fear losing their strong connection in their village as they have helped each other survive and resettle with minimal cost. They believe they won't receive much help from the people in new places to settle them. Despite multiple displacements, they often move to shortdistance locations, eventually choosing to adjust based on the support they receive from friends and locals (Haque and Zaman, 2011).

3. Attachment with Old Heritage

The study found another interesting reason behind temporary is their attachment to their old heritage, as people often choose to stay in their village despite potential hardships. This is evident in the interviews of some respondents in our study. I never want to leave this village; this is our residence (Hakim Gazi, male, 65). This is my father's house. We have nothing but this house to call our own. Why would I leave this? I want to stay here with my family and the villagers (Jahur, male, 50). I didn't migrate because I love living here. It's better to stay here. God will help us (Samad Sardar, male, 65).

Their quotes reflect that living in their village for a long time creates a fondness and an attachment for the area, and as a result, they do not want to permanently migrate from their village. Attachment to certain places is part of human nature. Place attachment can therefore motivate people's engagement to live in their village, regardless of the miseries and hazards they face due to flood.

# Consequences of Temporary Displacement on Flood-affected People

Temporary displacement caused by flooding poses multifaceted challenges for both individuals and communities, affecting them physically, psychologically, economically, and socially. These consequences are diverse and extensive, affecting various aspects of individuals' lives immediately after the event and continuing to impact them in the long run. The following section illustrates the particular challenges and consequences that temporary displaced people face due to flooding.

#### 1. Unstable Accommodation

Temporary relocation significantly impacts home sustainability. Most households in the study region were displaced multiple times, unable to establish permanent residences, and frequently returning to their villages. For example, one of the research participants, Monsur Sardar, had to move five times within his village. "We always live in fear", he said, sharing his personal story. "We have no idea when our house may fall or when floods will happen again. This dread keeps us from constructing a sturdy home. What's the purpose? It will repeatedly collapse" (Monsur Sardar, 65, male).

According to our research, floods are made worse by riverbank erosion. Some residents had to move to different parts of the village because the river washed away their homes, which were mostly made of mud and palm leaves. For instance, a man named Sattar had to move twice within the village and mentioned that his house was submerged 52 hands deep where it used to stand. "We were able to rebuild on the riverside after our house fell in a previous flood. The home and land were both washed away in the flood that occurred during Amphan, though" (Sattar, male, 42).

Monsur Sardar and Sattar's narratives reveal that most research participants experienced housing instability. This issue, particularly in riverine areas with higher displacement rates, hindered their ability to maintain their standard of living and is particularly concerning for those in disaster-prone areas. Studies by Bukvic et al. (2022) have shown that frequent relocations can negatively impact home security and community resilience, with a common pattern of brief moves followed by returns to the original locations in flood-prone areas. Monsur Sardar and Sattar's challenges align with Bhuiyan et al.'s (2017) research on flooding and erosion of riverbanks, emphasizing the need for comprehensive disaster risk reduction measures. Furthermore, the respondents' cyclical displacement experiences align with Bhadra & Dyer's 2022 research on the long-term impacts of repeated displacements on community well-being. To end instability and vulnerability in disaster-damaged areas, social support networks and sustainable housing solutions are urgently needed, as demonstrated by the ongoing struggles of Monsur Sardar and Sattar.

#### 2. Impact on Income and Occupation

Flood disasters significantly impact the income and livelihoods of affected people, especially those living in low-lying areas. Regular pluvial floods in the southern western embanked area cause crop damage and winter cultivation delays, causing substantial income losses (Alam et al., 2017; Hossain et al., 2020). Most residents depend on agriculture and fish farming for their livelihoods, and floods often damage crops and fish farms, forcing many to seek alternative livelihoods. Farmers are forced to convert their agricultural lands into aquaculture after surge flood events, further affecting their livelihoods (Khan et al., 2015; Abedin & Khatun, 2020; Parvin et al., 2023). This can be understood through the discussion of the following three respondents: Before the flood, I was involved in fish farming. But due to the flood, the farm (locally known as 'gher') was drowned. Now I am a day laborer. I do everything. Whenever I get any work, I do that (Sirajul Islam, male, 52). During floods, we don't get such work. Then we do the work of soil cutting; besides, we work on repairing the embankments (Rafi, male, 45). As I worked as a van puller during the flood, I suddenly became jobless. But when the water receded, I was able to do that again (Hafizul, male, 35).

Their narratives revealed that floods severely damage fish and crop cultivation farms, reducing their financial capacity and jeopardizing livelihoods. Residents are trapped in poverty due to lower incomes, and some households are completely destroyed. They rely on relief, charity, and moneylender organizations for survival, with some receiving loans for solar power and boats from dadondars (Islam & Walkerden, 2015). One respondent shared how difficult it was for him to survive during the flood: During the flood, my daily income was only 200 TK (BDT). Sometimes it was worse than that. Is it possible to maintain a family of six members for only 200 TK (BDT)? We can't even take our food properly (Najim, male, 50).

Najim's narrative resonates with the majority of participants in this research. Floods significantly impact earnings and quality of life, leading to joblessness and shifts in employment. A study by Hossain et al. (2020) found that 51.4% of the population became jobless due to floods, with 24.6% changing occupations. Individuals involved in agriculture and aquaculture are particularly vulnerable to natural disasters, often experiencing income loss and job disruptions. Many are forced to take temporary jobs, transitioning from traditional occupations to survive. Moreover, reports from the MoA (2013) reveal that soil salinity affects 63% of cultivable areas, and sea level rise could place 20% of Bangladesh's land underwater, displacing 20-30 million people.

3. Disruptions in Children's Education

Displaced people face significant challenges in their children's education due to temporary displacements, including inundated roads and institutions, financial hardship, and long stagnation. Many children drop out of school due to these disruptions and the need for proper education (Hossain et al., 2020). Likewise, our study found that frequent displacements in families lead to children losing continuity in education, often at high risk of discontinuation or child labor. Floods also pose significant challenges, impacting academic routines and health, with 93.8% facing academic difficulties and 87.5% suffering from waterborne diseases. Additionally, 82% of respondents couldn't attend school due to impassable roads, washed bridges, or water-surrounded schools (Habiba et al., 2021).

As an illustration, two of our interviewees, Jamila Khatun and Karim describe the following: I have a child. Previously, she used to go to the primary school. But now she doesn't go. Due to the flood in this area, people took shelter in the primary school. Besides, it's very difficult to move from one place to another during a flood. So, it is not possible to go to school. However, due to the Coronavirus, the school is closed now. When the school opens, she will go again (Jamila Khatun, female, 48).

We are unable to provide proper schooling for our children. We can't afford tuition fees and other necessary elements for the education of our children. Where we don't even have the money to run our family properly, we have to bear the education costs of our children, which is a big deal. So, he studied until class seven. Now he works as a van puller (Karim, male, 40)

Their remarks suggest that the frequent relocations disrupt their children's education, hindering their academic progress and development. Simultaneously, economic struggles force some children to leave school prematurely, compelling them to enter the workforce as child laborers to contribute to their family's income.

# The Interconnected Struggle for Food, Water, and Health

According to our study findings, every time the people are displaced from their village, they face numerous challenges, including finding suitable housing, accessing food, and clean drinking water, and addressing health issues. Riverbank erosion severely affects food security, and even after a flood, residents struggle to meet their basic needs. This is consistent with Ahmad and Afzal's (2020) study, which also found that coastal residents face significant food challenges during floods. One participant, Sirajul Islam, expressed:

There must have been a food problem. We couldn't take food with us. Although the chairman arranged our meals for the first few days (dry food, khichuri, etc.), we then arranged our own meals. Besides, different organizations gave us food. But how many people will they give? How many times will they give? Is it possible for them to arrange all the time? Most of the time, we couldn't take food three times a day. Besides, there were no proper places for cooking (Sirajul Islam, male, 52).

Another significant challenge encountered by displaced individuals in their new locations is the shortage of clean drinking water. Several studies have shown that disasters contaminated open water sources, forcing villages to rely on governmentprovided tankers. Tube wells were also inundated with saline water, causing extensive drinking water pollution in the surveyed region (Kartiki, 2011; Paul & Routary, 2010). Here, we have to face many problems to get pure drinking water, even in normal times. And during floods, it creates more problems for us to get pure drinking water. The government provided a water tank to preserve rainwater. Besides, during floods, some organizations also supply water. But that was not sufficient for us. We had to buy water for drinking. We still buy water for drinking. It takes 5 TK (BDT) for a jar of water (Rafiqul Molla, male, 50).

Along with floods and water scarcity, many participants also highlighted the sanitation challenges they encountered in the flood-affected areas. One of my respondents pointed out that: We were at the cyclone shelter. There was only one toilet. And that was also broken. All the people had to use that one broken toilet. I managed it anyway, but the female members of my family, like my mother, wife, and daughters, faced indescribable problems (Rafiqul Islam, male, 45).

Rafigul Islam's story is not an isolated case; almost all the respondents in our study said that they suffer a lot to get available food, safe drinking water, and sanitation facilities. As a result, people suffer from various health issues, including diarrhea, fever, and colds. They can have shortintermediate, and long-term impacts, term, including drowning, injuries, skin diseases, and gastrointestinal outbreaks (Alderman et al., 2012; Mohajervatan et al., 2017). In the midterm, they can cause infections and poor mental health. Long-term, they can lead to malnutrition, chronic diseases, disabilities, and poverty (Grigorieva and Livenets, 2022). Moreover, Uddin's 2018 study revealed drowning and snake bites as common flood problems, with females often facing harassment. Fatema et al. (2023) emphasized the need for a gender-based approach to understanding health vulnerability, highlighting the distressing circumstances faced by displaced individuals.

The study focuses on two main issues –the root causes of flood-induced temporary population displacement and its consequences. The definition of "population displacement" has been the subject of much debate and discussion. The concept is very complex. There is no clear and uniform definition of the concept (Islam and Hasan, 2016). The International Organization for Migration (2007) has proposed a working definition of environmental migrants as persons or groups of persons who are

forced to migrate temporarily or permanently within or outside the country for unexpected reasons or because of the negative impacts of climate change and environmental change on their lives or livelihoods. In addition, Naser's (2011) term "temporary internal displacement" refers to the displacement of people in the affected area within the borders of their country, moving to the homes of neighbors and relatives, to higher roads, preferably embankments, and then back to their original location. Once the event was over, they began to reestablish their livelihoods and rebuild their homes. Meanwhile, this study used the term "Temporary population displacement", where people or groups are moved to neighboring areas as a result of climatic events (flood) but do not settle there permanently and return to their place of origin once the floodwaters subside.

The occurrence of temporary population displacement due to floods has fueled a multitude of studies (Ahmad and Afzal, 2020; Kakinuma et al., 2020; Hossain et al., 2020; Moniruzzaman, 2015; Islam, 2012). Hossain et al. (2020) focused on flood impacts in char villages, emphasizing increased vulnerability and displacement due to floods affecting income and occupations. Joarder and Miller (2013) in their research showed that livestock loss and crop failure are more likely to result in temporary migration rather than permanent migration. Similarly, Rabbani (2022) in his research identified several reasons for temporary migration, including limited financial resources, sociodemographic challenges, poor governance, and geographical limitations. He also discovered that psychological ties and social networks play a significant role in fostering connections to a place, which can prevent people from permanently leaving their place of origin. Furthermore, Islam (2012) and Moniruzzaman (2015) explored how flood hazards and erosion force people to leave their homes, causing economic losses and social insecurity. Perch-Nielsen et al. (2008) developed a model linking floods to migration, identifying factors that influence migration decisions and the need for adaptation strategies beyond displacement. Kakinuma et al. (2020) extended this analysis globally, mapping flood vulnerability and displacement patterns, highlighting the disproportionate impact on low-income countries and emphasizing the necessity of adaptation

measures. Ahmad and Afzal (2020) specifically studied flood and erosion impacts on human displacement, reporting significant rates of homestead loss and repeated displacements among affected households in Bangladesh.

This study also investigated the consequences flood-induced of temporary population displacement. The consequences of flood and temporary displacement in Southwest coastal Bangladesh have been the focus of several research studies (Hossain et al., 2020; Barua et al., 2019; Islam and Shamsuddoha (2017); Islam and Hasan 2016; Moniruzzaman, 2015). For example, Hossain et al. (2020) in their study explored the impacts of floods on the livelihoods of people in char village, particularly on their income and occupation. They showed that floods make individuals more vulnerable and sometimes make them displaced. Similarly, Barua et al. (2019) in their study investigated the impact of riverbank erosion on the lives and livelihoods of the displaced people in South-Eastern Bangladesh. Their study revealed that riverbank erosion is addressing displacement, hidden hunger, poverty, loss of land, and identity of coastal people. Moreover, Islam (2012) in his study showed that flood hazards and riverbank erosion forced the char people to move away from their homesteads. He also showed that these hazards cause various asset damage, economic loss, and social insecurity in every stage of their life. In addition, Moniruzzaman (2015) examined that flood drives people to leave their land temporarily or seasonally or in some cases, permanently. He argued that after a flood, permanent migration often involves long-distance movements away from the affected areas whereas temporary migration occurs to nearby highlands or on roads for several weeks or months. Moreover, Islam and Hasan (2016) found that people displaced by Aila were migrating to nearby places due to their financial vulnerability, loss of physical resources, and insecurity, and they were suffering severely in terms of unemployment, lack of housing, health problems and poor access to local public services.

The above discussion implies that temporary displacement has multifaceted causes and consequences ranging from limited financial resources, socio-demographic challenges, poor governance, geographical limitations, psychological ties, and social networks. These factors lead to acute accommodation challenges, loss of land and asset damage, hunger and poverty, economic loss and social insecurity, long-term disruptions in income, occupation, and education unemployment, lack of housing, health problems, and poor access to local public services.

In sum, our research has identified various causes that temporarily displace respondents from their villages. However, after the disaster ends, they return to their villages, and this cycle continues. This displacement has several consequences on their lives.

#### CONCLUSION

Based on a qualitative research approach, this article examines the causes and consequences of the temporary displacement of flood-affected people in southwest coastal Bangladesh. Even though the data were collected from a small sample of respondents, the results present a compelling analysis of the diverse causes behind climateinduced temporary displacement and their socioeconomic repercussions.

The results revealed that the primary reasons for respondents to migrate temporarily within their villages or nearby areas include economic challenges, the fear of losing their social connections, and a deep attachment to their cultural heritage. People return to their original areas postdisaster, despite the ongoing risks, because of financial constraints.

Respondents believe that monetary support can significantly stimulate permanent migration, demonstrating a strong desire for such migration with government support. Most respondents are in the vicious cycle of poverty, preventing them from migrating to safer areas. This raises the concern of the need for social networks to facilitate temporary mobility. Social capital provides technical support, financial security, emotional support, and a spirit of community.

The respondents believe that a permanent shift will result in the loss of their essential social bonds. The flood-affected respondents are dependent on their roots of origin and choose temporary relocations over leaving their beloved village. Secure them in comfortable surroundings despite natural calamities.

The research indicates that frequent displacements in Hazrakhali villages lead to

challenges such as housing, food, income diversification, hygiene, sanitation, and water scarcity. Temporary migration causes displacement and fragile housing in flood-prone areas, which degrades living standards and renders it more difficult for residents to construct sustainable homes. Besides, the findings exhibit that flooding seriously reduces the income and livelihoods of residents in low-lying territories, mainly those dependent on farming and fishing. Many farmers quit their manual labor or temporary living; many others shifted their farms to aquaculture. Floods result in unemployment and miserable living standards, with many relying on NGOs and moneylenders for relief. Further, floods impede children's education, causing dropout rates and increasing the risk of child labor amid financial hardships. Financial difficulties and infrastructural obstacles make this worse. Yet, this study argues that displaced individuals due to flooding face severe troubles in finding food, shelter, safe drinking water, and sanitation, which have negative effects on their health. Vulnerable communities are hardest hit by these challenges, which emphasizes the need for targeted interventions. This research is concentrated on a specific area, which may have unique characteristics that do not apply to other flood-affected areas in Bangladesh or other regions with similar issues. So, it would be difficult to generalize this study's findings to a particular climate issue. The research emphasizes the importance of fostering resilience in communities vulnerable to climate-related disasters to achieve SDG 13 climate action goals, despite the lack of insight into the long-term impacts of repeated flooding. Future research should consider broader samples flood-affected regions from for comprehensive understanding and comparative analysis.

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