The Reality of Climate Refugees from Central America and Prospects for US Immigration

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Central American Climate Change

- Extreme weather events
- Drought
- Flooding
- Crop failure
- Rising temperatures
- Connections with international migration





Issue and Goal of Study

• Issue

- Substantial gap in literature regarding climate migration from the region
- Why has this gone unnoticed?

• Goals of the study

- Discover why this literature gap exists
- Fill the gap
- Propose recommendations





Methodology and Results

• Methodology

- Mixed-methods
- Personal interviews from a variety of perspectives
- Analyze extent literature

• Results

- Climate change as a threat multiplier
- Climate change as an evolving issue
- Climate change intersecting with US and global immigration systems





Solutions

- Recognition of climate refugees
- Special work visas
- Funding social safety nets
- As simple as planting trees





Global Connections

• What can be learned

- A model for mitigation and adaptation
- Applicable elsewhere

• What's next?

- Further research
 - Mitigation
 - Adaptation
 - Cooperation





