



TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR THE POPULATION GROWTH DYNAMICS AND CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENTIFIC PANEL

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The panel will explore the interconnected challenges of rapid population growth and climate change, focusing on their impact on societies, economies, and the environment, especially in developing regions. The panel will bring together experts in population studies, climate science, and sustainable development to assess evidence, analyze the links between demographic trends and climate change, and provide policy recommendations. Its goal is to enhance understanding of how population growth, resource use, urbanization, migration, and environmental change interact, with a focus on vulnerability, adaptation, and mitigation strategies.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of the Population Growth Dynamics and Climate Change Scientific Panel are to:

- **Assess** and synthesize scientific research on the relationship between population growth and climate change.
- **Identify** key drivers and trends of population growth, climate change impacts, and their interactions at various levels.
- **Provide** evidence-based policy recommendations for integrating population dynamics into climate change strategies.
- **Develop** strategies to address the vulnerabilities of populations most affected by both rapid population growth and climate change.
- **Foster** interdisciplinary collaboration among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to bridge gaps between population science, climate change, and sustainable development.

SCOPE OF WORK

The Panel will focus on, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- a) **Population Growth and Climate Change Interactions**
 - Analyze how demographic factors such as fertility rates, migration patterns, and urbanization influence climate change vulnerability and adaptation.
 - Study how climate impacts (e.g., extreme weather, resource scarcity) affect population growth and migration trends.
 - Examine the role of population in contributing to greenhouse gas emissions, resource consumption, and land use changes.
- b) **Vulnerabilities and Adaptation**
 - Assess the vulnerabilities of different population groups (e.g., low-income, rural, and marginalized communities) to the effects of both population growth and climate change.
 - Explore adaptation strategies that can reduce risks for vulnerable populations, including the role of family planning, health systems, and education.

c) **Policy and Governance**

- Review and recommend policies that integrate population dynamics into national and international climate change strategies, focusing on sustainable development goals (SDGs).
- Analyze governance frameworks and international collaborations addressing population and climate challenges.

d) **Sustainable Resource Management and Urbanization**

- Investigate how population growth, urbanization, and consumption patterns contribute to climate change and how these processes can be managed sustainably.
- Promote strategies for reducing resource use and managing cities to mitigate the environmental impact of urban populations.

e) **Migration and Displacement**

- Study the links between climate change and migration, especially displacement due to environmental disasters, and the implications of these movements on population growth dynamics.
- Explore policy solutions that address the challenges of migration induced by climate impacts.

f) **Public Awareness and Education**

- Promote greater public awareness about the linkages between population dynamics and climate change.
- Encourage the integration of population and climate change education in school curricula and public discourse.

DURATION OF THE PANEL

- **Start and End Dates:** The panel's work will officially commence upon the appointment of its members and the first organizational meeting. The panel will be active for 4 years.
- **Extension/Review:** If the panel needs more time to complete its objectives, an extension can be requested with agreement from the panel members and relevant stakeholders. The request should include a clear rationale and updated deliverables. A formal review will occur after **12 months** to assess progress, gather stakeholder input, and potentially adjust the panel's mandate, extend its duration, or revise its objectives.

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY AND COMPOSITION

The Population Growth Dynamics and Climate Change Scientific Panel will consist of **experts** in the following areas:

- **Population Studies/Demography** (e.g., fertility, migration, population policy)
- **Climate Science** (e.g., climate modeling, environmental impacts, climate change adaptation)
- **Sustainable Development** (e.g., resource management, urbanization, development policy)
- **Public Health and Social Policy** (e.g., health impacts, vulnerable populations, gender)
- **Policy and Governance** (e.g., climate change policy, international collaboration)
- **Economics** (e.g., development economics, environmental economics)

Members should meet the following criteria:

- Experience and expertise in the above thematic areas.
- A **paid-up member of UAPS**
- Capacity to dedicate at **least eight (8) hours per week** to the panel.

- Demonstrated ability to **fundraise** for panel activities.
- Demonstrated ability to speak and write English. French will be an added advantage.

Members will be selected based on their expertise, experience, and contribution to the fields related to population and climate change and will serve for a **two-year renewable term**.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PANEL MEMBERS

Panel members are expected to:

- **Contribute to the development of research papers** and policy briefs addressing the intersection of population growth dynamics and climate change.
- **Organize and attend panel meetings** and events to discussions on key findings on reports, and recommendations.
- **Collaborate with other experts** to produce interdisciplinary solutions that integrate population dynamics and climate change into sustainable development frameworks.
- **Participate in public outreach efforts**, including conferences, webinars, and consultations, to disseminate findings and promote awareness.
- **Review and provide feedback** on reports, policy recommendations, and strategic plans developed by the panel.

STRUCTURE AND MEETINGS

The panel will consist of five members in addition to the Chair and Vice-chair. The panel will meet **regularly**, either virtually or in-person, to discuss progress, review research outputs, and provide strategic direction. Ad-hoc meetings may be convened as needed for special tasks or consultations. A **Chair** and **Vice-Chair** will be elected from the panel members to oversee the activities of the group, with support from a **Secretariat** to oversee logistics and communication.

DELIVERABLES

The expected deliverables of the panel include:

- **Policy briefs** outlining key findings and actionable recommendations for governments, international organizations, and NGOs.
- **Publications** in peer-reviewed journals such as the Journal for African Population Studies ([JAPS](#)), conferences, and other forums to disseminate research outcomes.
- **Guidelines** for addressing the impacts of population growth on climate change mitigation and adaptation, particularly for vulnerable populations.

BUDGET AND RESOURCES

The Panel is expected to fundraise and operate with funding provided by the **sponsoring organizations**, including government agencies, international institutions, and private sector partners. The Secretariat will provide seed money for some activities of the panel. A detailed budget for panel activities, including meetings, research, publications, and outreach efforts, will be developed, and approved annually.

REPORTING

The panel will provide regular progress reports to the Secretariat detailing activities, achievements, and impact.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

Interested individuals who wish to join the **Population Growth Dynamics and Climate Change Scientific Panel** must submit the following:

1. **Curriculum Vitae (CV):** A two-page CV detailing educational background, professional experience, and relevant publications in population studies, climate change, sustainable development, or related fields.
 2. **Statement of Interest (1 page):** A brief statement outlining interest in joining the panel, highlighting motivation and expertise in population growth dynamics and climate change. Indicate the desired position (e.g., Chair, Vice-Chair, or Member).
 3. **Relevant Publications or Research:** Copies or links to key publications or projects demonstrating expertise in demographic trends, climate science, sustainable development, or related areas.
 4. **Letters of Recommendation (Optional):** One or two letters from colleagues or supervisors that attest to qualifications and contributions in population dynamics or climate change research or policy.
 5. **Proposed Contribution:** A brief outline (1 page) detailing how the applicant envisions contributing to the panel's objectives, including specific areas of focus or unique skills (e.g., data analysis, policy development).
 6. **Availability and Commitment:** A statement on availability for panel activities, including quarterly meetings, research, and outreach. Indicate willingness to commit to a two-year renewable term.
- Please submit the above documents in **one PDF file** to uaps@uaps-uepa.org
 - Deadline for applications: **midnight (GMT) 31/01/2025**
 - Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

We look forward to receiving your application and working together to address the crucial intersection of population growth and climate change. Contact the Secretariat via email at uaps@uaps-uepa.org if you have any questions.