

Center for Human Rights, Environment and Migration Research (CHREMIR)

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(CHREMIR)**

Department of International Relations
University of Chittagong
Chattogram, Bangladesh

**Brief Statement About the Center for Human Rights, Environment and Migration Research
(CHREMIR)**

The Center for Human Rights, Environment and Migration Research (CHREMIR) is a multidisciplinary research hub dedicated to advancing scholarly inquiry, policy analysis, and practical engagement at the intersections of human rights, environmental justice, and migration studies. Housed within the Department of International Relations at the University of Chittagong, CHREMIR seeks to generate impactful knowledge that addresses some of the most pressing global and regional challenges of our time.

The Center fosters cutting-edge research on the drivers, dynamics, and consequences of forced displacement, climate-induced migration, statelessness, and labor mobility, while advocating for the protection of fundamental human rights. Emphasizing both theoretical and applied approaches, CHREMIR promotes collaboration among academics, policymakers, civil society actors, and international organizations.

With a strong commitment to innovation, inclusivity, and evidence-based policy engagement, CHREMIR aims to build research partnerships at national, regional, and global levels. It also serves as a platform for capacity building, student involvement, and public discourse, nurturing the next generation of scholars and practitioners in the fields of human rights, environmental governance, and migration diplomacy.

Detailed Statement About the Center for Human Rights, Environment and Migration Research (CHREMIR)

The Center for Human Rights, Environment and Migration Research (CHREMIR) is a dedicated interdisciplinary research and policy platform established under the Department of International Relations at the University of Chittagong. It aims to explore and address the complex and interlinked challenges of human rights violations, environmental degradation, and migration in the context of global and regional transformations.

In an era defined by climate emergencies, protracted conflicts, displacement crises, and systemic inequalities, CHREMIR recognizes the urgent need to advance knowledge that is both critically grounded and policy-relevant. The Center envisions becoming a leading academic hub in South Asia for cutting-edge research, collaborative initiatives, and innovative responses to the pressing human and ecological crises shaping the 21st century.

In today's world, the overlap between climate-induced displacement, rising authoritarianism, shrinking civic spaces, and migrant precarity has become increasingly visible. From the Rohingya refugee crisis and the vulnerabilities of Bangladeshi migrant workers in the Gulf to the rising salinity in the coastal zones of Bangladesh forcing internal migration—the nexus of human rights, environment, and migration is urgent and undeniable.

CHREMIR is poised to contribute to understanding and addressing these realities by generating timely, ethical, and impactful research. It aims to serve not only as an academic think tank but also as a change agent that influences public discourse and contributes to sustainable and rights-based solutions. The Center seeks to connect theory with practice, linking academic research with real-world advocacy, capacity building, and public engagement. It promotes participatory approaches and ethical research practices, especially when working with vulnerable populations such as refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), climate migrants, and marginalized communities affected by environmental degradation and rights violations.

Objectives and Activities of the Center for Human Rights, Environment and Migration Research (CHREMIR)

1. To advance multidisciplinary research on the intersections between human rights, environmental change, and migration patterns, particularly in the context of South and Southeast Asia.
2. To promote evidence-based policymaking through rigorous research, data collection, and analytical studies addressing forced migration, statelessness, climate-induced displacement, and labor migration.
3. To foster collaboration with academic institutions, think tanks, NGOs, civil society organizations, and international bodies such as UNHCR, IOM, and UNEP.
4. To generate awareness and advocate for the rights of displaced populations, environmentally affected communities, and labor migrants through academic publications, policy briefs, public seminars, and outreach programs.
5. To nurture young researchers and students by offering fellowships, training workshops, and internship opportunities in relevant fields.
6. To influence national, regional, and global discourses on human rights protection, environmental justice, and migration diplomacy through forums, dialogues, and knowledge dissemination.

Based on the objectives, the activities of the center will be the following:

- a) To organize seminars, conferences, symposiums, and workshops on issues related to human rights, environmental justice, climate change, forced displacement, labor migration, statelessness, and migration governance at national, regional, and global levels.
- b) To provide training, capacity-building, and consultancy services to students, early-career researchers, NGOs, policymakers, and practitioners engaged in human rights, migration, and environmental research and advocacy.
- c) To establish research and policy networks by linking with national and international academic institutions, research centers, civil society organizations, and UN bodies (e.g., UNHCR, IOM, OHCHR, UNEP) concerned with human rights, environmental sustainability, and migration studies.

- d) To publish books, policy briefs, research reports, working papers, journals, and monographs on critical issues such as refugee protection, climate-induced migration, gender and migration, environmental degradation, and rights-based development.
- e) To organize short-term and certificate training programs for students, journalists, development workers, and young researchers interested in conducting applied or theoretical research in the areas of human rights, environment, and migration.
- f) To conduct interdisciplinary and collaborative research with governmental, intergovernmental, and non-governmental organizations on pressing regional and global issues related to displacement, ecological crises, migration diplomacy, and human security.
- g) To maintain a resource and documentation center that archives legal frameworks, treaties, migration histories, climate data, testimonies, and relevant scholarly materials for academic and public use.
- h) To engage in advocacy, public education, and outreach through campaigns, awareness programs, community consultations, and digital media platforms aimed at promoting human rights and environmental accountability.
- i) To support fieldwork, policy engagement, and research-based interventions in migrant-sending and climate-affected communities in Bangladesh and the South Asian region.

Center for Human Rights, Environment and Migration Research (CHREMIR)

Constitution

Part II: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Name

- 1.1.1. The name of the organization shall be the Center for Human Rights, Environment and Migration Research (CHREMIR).
- 1.1.2. The address for the center is: 5th floor, Department of International Relations, Dr. Younus Bhaban (Faculty of Social Sciences), University of Chittagong, Chattogram-4331, Bangladesh.

1.2 Definitions

- 1.2.1. The Center for Human Rights, Environment and Migration Research (CHREMIR) is a nonpartisan organization that will be neutral to any ideology, sect, political party, group, or person, and country.
- 1.2.2. The word member shall mean and include: Fellows, General Members, Research Associates, and Affiliates.
- 1.2.3. The Board will remain the Executive Board of CHREMIR.

1.3. Objectives and Activities

- 1.3.1. The main objective of the center is to advance multidisciplinary, evidence-based, policy-oriented research on the intersections between human rights, environmental change, and migration patterns, particularly in the context of the Global South. The center shall not have any support or opposition to any ideologies, political parties, views, or religious groups. It, however, will give strong emphasis on fostering and promoting the interests of Bangladesh through research-based activism.

PART II: GOVERNANCE

2.1. Patron:

Vice Chancellor, University of Chittagong

2.2. Advisory Board:

Composed of national and international scholars, practitioners, and policymakers with expertise in migration, environment, and human rights. The size of advisory board will be twenty and the tenure of the advisory board will be three years. The advisory board will be selected carefully by the executive committee members.

2.3. Director:

As the founder, Professor Dr. Md. Kamal Uddin of the Department of International Relations shall be responsible for strategic leadership and administration of the center.

2.4. Deputy Director / Coordinator:

A deputy director shall supports the Director in day-to-day operations and program management.

2.5. Executive Board/Committee:

Includes faculty members, researchers, and invited experts who contribute to research planning, evaluation, and decision-making. The size of the Executive Committee will be eight inclusive of Director and Deputy Director. The tenure of a Board/Committee will be two years (e.g., January 2026- December 2027).

2.6. Research Fellows and Associates:

Includes PhD students, postdoctoral researchers, and independent scholars affiliated with the Center.

2.7. Administrative Staff:

Responsible for logistics, communications, finance, and documentation.

PART III: MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATION

Open to faculty, researchers, students, and practitioners affiliated with the University of Chittagong or collaborating institutions. Visiting researchers and fellows can be affiliated through academic exchanges and partnerships.

3.1 Types of Membership

- **Research Associate**
- **Researcher**
- **Research Affiliate**
- **Fellow**
- **General Member**

3.2 Fees and Subscriptions

The amount of annual subscription for the various types of members is to be payable by 31st December of the following year shall be determined by the executive board.

PART IV: THE BOARD OF EXECUTIVES

4.1 Members of The Board

The center shall have an executive Board (The Board of Executive Committee), consisting of a Director, a Co-Director, and six other members

Director

Md. Kamal Uddin, PhD

Professor

Department of International Relations

University of Chittagong

Chattogram-4331, Bangladesh

Board Members

Board members will be decided after approval

4.2 Functions of the Executive Board/Committee

The Executive Board shall serve as the principal decision-making body of the Centre and shall be responsible for all major policy decisions necessary to achieve the objectives of the Centre. The functions of the Executive Board include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Formulate and implement key policy decisions to guide the strategic direction and operations of the Centre.
2. Prepare, approve, and oversee the annual budget of the Centre, ensuring financial sustainability and transparency.
3. Supervise and manage the daily administrative and academic affairs of the Centre.
4. Review and approve annual and periodic work plans, research agendas, and activity schedules.
5. Approve applications for individual and institutional memberships and maintain records of membership.
6. Determine and regulate membership fees and other financial contributions.
7. Establish standing and ad-hoc committees and subcommittees to carry out specific functions, research tasks, or organizational duties.
8. Enter into agreements, collaborations, and transactions on behalf of the Centre with national and international institutions.
9. Monitor and evaluate ongoing projects, research initiatives, and outreach programs to ensure alignment with the Centre's goals.
10. Represent the Centre in relevant forums, conferences, and academic networks to promote its vision and partnerships.
11. Ensure compliance with university policies, national laws, and ethical standards in all activities of the Centre.

PART V: MEETINGS

5.1. Meetings of the Executive Board/Committee

5.1.1. Frequency and Notification: The Executive Board shall meet as and when required. For every meeting, all Board members must be notified at least three (3) days in advance. Fellows and Associate Members may attend the meeting and express their views on the agenda, but they shall not have voting rights.

5.1.2. Quorum Requirement: A quorum for the meeting shall be constituted by at least half of the Board members. No business shall be conducted without a quorum. If the quorum is not present, the meeting shall be adjourned. The Director will then determine the date, time, and venue for the rescheduled meeting.

5.2. Voting and Decisions

5.2.1. Consensus-Based Decisions: As far as possible, decisions of the Executive Board shall be made based on consensus.

5.2.2. Voting Procedure: Any member present at a meeting may request a vote on any issue. Each member has the right to one vote. In the event of a tie, the presiding member shall exercise a casting vote to break the deadlock.

5.3 Minutes of Meetings

5.3.1. Record Keeping: All resolutions and proceedings of meetings shall be documented in a minute book. Each minute must be signed by the Director of the meeting, and such signed records shall serve as official and sufficient evidence of the matters discussed.

5.3.2. Finality of Decisions: Decisions taken in general or special meetings and duly recorded in the minute book shall be considered final unless formally revoked in a subsequent meeting.

PART VI: BOARD OF ADVISORS

6.1. Members of the Board of Advisors

6.1.1. Establishment: The Center (CHREMIR) shall have a dedicated Board of Advisors.

6.1.2. Name of the Advisory Body: This body will be known as the Advisory Board of the CHREMIR (ABCHREMIR).

6.1.3. Composition: The number of members in the ABCHREMIR will be twenty. Members will be nominated by the Board of Executives (the Executive Board) of the Center for Human Rights, Environment and Migration Research (CHREMIR), as deemed appropriate from time to time.

6.1.4. Scholars and experts on the issues of human rights, environment, and migration from across the world will be eligible for the membership of ABCHREMIR

6.1.5. Primary tasks of the advisory board will be to advise and collaborate with the executive board/committee.

6.1.6. A advisory board will work for three years of tenure.

PART VII: AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTIONS

7.1. Amendment Procedure

7.1.1. Any amendment, modification, or alteration of the constitution shall be effective at a special meeting of the Executive and Advisory Board convened for the purpose by at least two-thirds of the members entitled to vote.

PART VIII: MISCELLANEOUS

8.1. Sources of Fund

- * The primary source of fund will be the subscription of general members of the center
- * Foreign and National funding particularly for the purpose of carry out different research projects.
- * Research grants, donations, consultancy and other sources as the board determines.

8.2. Inspection and Records

Subject to any privacy legislation, records and documents of the CHREMIR shall be open to inspection, free of charge particularly for the members of CHREMIR.