

Module 5 Expert Video

Planned relocation in the context of climate change is a relatively new phenomenon.

But it's a phenomenon that will certainly increase in the next decades.

We know with certainty that sea levels are going to rise substantially and that in more and more places around the world, adaptation and disaster risk reduction are becoming increasingly difficult and sometimes impossible.

In such places, planned relocation may be a “last resort” option.

We have also seen in this module that doing planned relocation well is extremely difficult.

There has been a long history of planned relocation in the context of dam building and other infrastructural development projects.

The results of these relocations for local communities have tended to be very negative.

Such relocations were top-down processes and the well-being of local communities was usually not a primary concern.

Over the past 10 to 20 years, there has been substantial improvement due to more participatory approaches.

As we have seen in some of the examples from Fiji, nowadays there are also better guidelines for doing planned relocations well.

But we also see that despite the best intentions, relocation still often comes with some negative consequences.

It is crucial to learn from present day experiences and further improve approaches to planned relocation in the context of climate change.