

Defining a Regional Agenda for Migration Health: Policies, Priorities and Perspectives from South Asia

A hybrid panel in CESLAM Kathmandu Migration Conference

Date	:	17 th February 2025, Monday
Time	:	2:45 PM - 4:05 PM Nepal time
Duration	:	80 mins
Venue	:	CESLAM, Social Science Baha, Kathmandu, Nepal
Mode	:	Hybrid
Interest Link	:	https://forms.gle/YdQnuZJaPiZJSVSJ7
Conference Link	:	https://ceslam.org/conference/call-for-papers-ceslam-kathmandu-migration-conference-2025/ .
Audience makers	:	Researchers, Academicians, MH professionals, policy makers

Panel Outline

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER
9.00 – 9.15AM	Ground Setting MiHSA Objectives About GSMERH Expectation-Setting	Prof Anuj Kapilashrami, CGHIER and MiHSA
9.15 – 9.30AM	A South-Asian take on research priorities for migration health –CHNRI Result highlights from India and Pakistan, and Preliminary findings from Nepal	Obindra Chand, CGHIER and MiHSA Sadikshya Bhattarai, CESLAM Nepal
9.30 – 9.45AM	Case studies on profiling, policy mapping, indexing and deep-diving – MigPolX in Pakistan, India and Cambodia – Rationale and Application of the toolkit	Dr Roomi Aziz, CGHIER and MiHSA Ishita Garg, MiHSA, India
9.45 – 10.00AM	Key policy gaps in Migration Health and Policy Priorities for Nepal	Dr Dhiraj Gurung, IOM Nepal
10.00 – 10.20AM	Discussion and Conclusion	Prof Anuj Kapilashrami, CGHIER Prof Bernadette Kumar, NIPH

Panel Proceedings

Migration health remains an underexplored area in South and Southeast Asia with limited focus on the health and social care needs of transient and diverse migrant population.(1) Existing literature on migration health in the region, and the specific countries it constitutes, , remains patchy, often restricted to specific health conditions –infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, maternal and maternal and reproductive health.(2) This does not capture the complexities of migration trajectories, the socio-economic and geopolitical contextual realities, or the wider social determinants of migration health in the region. This fragmented body of

evidence creates challenges in designing and developing evidence informed policies, programs, and interventions that are regionally and nationally relevant.

Against this backdrop, this panel in the CESLAM Kathmandu Migration Conference attempted to shed light on recent regional developments in enhancing migration health scholarship for inclusive and sensitive/ responsive policies. The panel showcased highlights of regional level research prioritization (CHNRI) from India and Pakistan, while detailing preliminary results from Nepal; followed by introduction to the migration health policy appraisal toolkit MigPolX and its regional applications. Following the discussions on priority-setting and policy appraisals, there was discussion on key policy gaps from the local perspective. The panel concluded with orienting the audience to the upcoming 2nd World Congress on Migration, Ethnicity, Race and Health.

