

Tailored solutions for the Global South

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The climate emergency represents a definitive global health crisis amongst a complex, unjust scenario. Disadvantaged communities and vulnerable populations from the Global South (e.g., women, Indigenous, or disabled groups) are experiencing the harshest consequences, as their increased exposure and vulnerability are rooted in structural challenges. The social, economic, and environmental determinants of mental health and wellbeing are affected through interrelated direct and indirect factors and long-term impacts. For instance, acute climatic events such as *El Niño* Southern Oscillation floods and landslides can affect communities through mechanisms like traumatic stress, but the consequences of exposure to recurrent extreme or prolonged climatic disasters can be delayed, leading to persistent mental illness such as post-traumatic stress disorder, or even transmitted to subsequent generations. We have clear, evidence-based frameworks and problems but not so many clear-cut solutions that bring the perspective of those bearing the greatest impacts. There are very few gender-sensitive, transcultural, integrated interventions that focus on protecting mental health or promoting recovery while focusing on the related social determinants. We also need community-based interventions that work at the individual and social-ecological levels to tackle this complex problem. We must urgently provide those at the highest risk of the climate crisis effects with informed cultural-appropriate solutions to address this imbalance. This will protect the rights of future generations to inherit a healthy natural environment, as a constitutive part of human security, the basis of the mental health and wellbeing of populations.