

Delegation : South Korea
Committee : General Assembly
Topic : Addressing Climate Change and Ensuring Protection for Persons
Displaced Due to Adverse Effects of Climate Change



The delegation of South Korea believes that climate change is a detrimental issue, escalating at a critical pace. Furthermore, displacement due to climate-related disasters is an exceedingly harmful and prevalent result of such concerns, requiring immediate attention and action. 81,000 internal displacements took place in South Korea between 2008 and 2022 due to natural disasters such as floods, storms, wildfires and extreme temperatures.¹ Globally, 250 million weather related displacements over the past 10 years,² heighten the urgent need for international action. South Korea acknowledges the need to continue to fulfill the mitigation obligations previously established in the climate change treaties and wishes to take on shared responsibility to prevent further consequences for people affected, as well as establish a legal framework to protect and assist displaced persons.

South Korea is already host to the UN's largest climate financing programme, the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Moreover, it also endorsed the 2018 Global Compact for Migration³, signifying its recognition for the necessity of a cooperative approach, as well as the fact that climate change is a driver of migration. In terms of addressing greenhouse gases (GHGs), the South Korean government already has plans in place to grow the renewable energy sector in the country. South Korea plans to use 20 percent renewable energy by 2030 as well as a goal of 35 percent renewable energy by 2040⁴. Additionally, the East Asian climate partnership (EACP) is a global cooperation and development initiative, established by South Korea and implemented through the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), which provides official development assistance, more specifically overseas grant aid⁵. Furthermore, In 2020 South Korea announced

¹ *Climate crisis, displacement, and the right to stay*. Korea Republic of Case Study | Climate Refugees | Othering & Belonging Institute. (n.d.).
https://belonging.berkeley.edu/climatedisplacement/case-studies/korea-republic?utm_source=chatgpt.com

² *UNHCR report reveals extreme weather driving repeated displacement among conflict-affected communities*. UNHCR. (2025a, November 10).
<https://www.unhcr.org/news/press-releases/unhcr-report-reveals-extreme-weather-driving-repeated-displacement-among>

³ United Nations. (2018, December 19). *General Assembly endorses first-ever global compact on migration, urging cooperation among member states in protecting migrants* | meetings coverage and press releases. United Nations. <https://press.un.org/en/2018/ga12113.doc.htm>

⁴ Wikimedia Foundation. (2025, February 20). *Renewable energy in South Korea*. Wikipedia.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renewable_energy_in_South_Korea

⁵ Wikimedia Foundation. (2023, November 4). *East Asia Climate Partnership*. Wikipedia.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_Asia_Climate_Partnership

its goal of seeking carbon neutrality by 2050, and in April 2021 vowed to halt all new overseas funding for coal fired power plants⁶.

The Republic of South Korea strongly supports an emphasis on a multilateral approach in the formation of an international guideline for climate induced displacement. South Korea believes that organisations such as the EACP can be a crucial pillar in aiding displaced persons, by funding initiatives along with sustainable climate-resilient infrastructure. Similarly, strengthening child protection systems and predicting displacement hotspots are both features that the delegation of South Korea proposes should be done through the EACP. Additionally, South Korea would like the GA to adopt strengthened funding via the GCF, for countries suffering with Climate vulnerability.

The delegation of the Republic of South Korea continues to prioritize the need for collective action to ensure the resilience and wellbeing of vulnerable communities worldwide. The delegation believes that it is only through capacity building and cooperation that an effective resolution can be reached. South Korea therefore calls upon its fellow member states to work together for the assurance of human rights protection in the face of climate related adversities resulting in displacement.

⁶ Wikimedia Foundation. (2025, February 20). *Renewable energy in South Korea*. Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renewable_energy_in_South_Korea