Understanding Climate Change Risk Perception in Kyrgyzstan

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Abstract

The level of concern about climate change is on the rise. To develop appropriate adaptation strategies, it is necessary to understand how people view climate change. Environmental psychology theories have investigated the factors influencing climate change-related behavior, and according to the theory of planned economy, environmentally friendly behavior depends on the willingness to act in an environmentally responsible manner, social norms, and the achievability of tasks. Citizens' awareness and perceptions of climate change have a significant impact on the effectiveness of government policies to address environmental problems.

In this study, we investigate perceptions of climate change in Kyrgyzstan using the Life in Kyrgyzstan survey conducted in 2019. An ordered logit model was implemented to analyze the differences in people's perceptions of climate change among young people, middle-aged people, and older people (over 60 years old). We will also analyze the perceptions of people in urban and rural areas, gender differences, and by education and income levels.