

## ABSTRACT

Climate change is expected to cause large scale impacts all across India. However, these impacts will be felt unequally across different regions. In this context, vulnerability indices emerged as a way to quantify climate change vulnerability and identify the most vulnerable regions. The capacity of individuals to cope with climate change is highly dependent on the level of economic development. In this study, we look at the relationship between climate vulnerability and economic development using cluster analysis, correlation and a cross tabulation using terciles across districts of India. As measures of climate vulnerability, we use three different indices arrived by the Department of Science and Technology (Government of India), by the Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture and by the Council for Energy, Environment and Water. Multidimensional Poverty Index and Basic Necessities Index calculated using data from NFHS 4 in 2015-16 and from NFHS 5 in 2019-20 as the two measures of development. We find some, but not strong, evidence that climate vulnerability is related to economic development and that climate vulnerability may to some extent drive future poverty. However, the limited correlation between the two sets of indices indicates that the strategies cannot be the same to address climate vulnerability and development but have to be interlinked.