



On Tuesday December 10, 2024 at 11am at CEDEJ **Florian Bonnefoi** will be presenting his research : **From the Nile Delta to Kuwait, Migration as Adaptation in a Time of Climate and Biodiversity Crisis?**

For decades, experts have warned of the global impacts of climate change, with IPCC reports identifying the Nile Delta as a hotspot in the Middle East and globally. The deterioration of local environments exacerbates already challenging socio-economic conditions, increasing pressure on local communities. In this context, migration plays an important role in helping these communities adapt. This presentation explores the multilayered vulnerabilities of the Delta's inhabitants, both in situ and through migration. Currently, more than 650,000 Egyptians live in Kuwait, working in various sectors, notably the fishing industry, which is shared between Indian and Egyptian communities. Most Egyptian workers on Kuwaiti fishing boats and in fish markets come from a small town in Kafr el-Sheikh Governorate. Drawing on multisite ethnography conducted between the Mediterranean coast of the Nile Delta and the malls of Kuwait City, this presentation examines the adaptive potential of migration in the context of the climate and biodiversity crisis. This presentation will delve into the lives of this transnational community. What are their living conditions in Egypt and Kuwait? How do they navigate mobility between the two countries? What roles do environmental and climate factors play in shaping their journeys? To what extent do remittances alleviate challenges in their village of origin? Beyond the mobility of people, it will also examine the movement of goods, commodities, and, in this case, fish. Inspired by the literature on non-human, it will analyze the intersections of climate change, resource exploitation or extraction, the globalized labor market, and migration. Finally, as climate conditions deteriorate in the Gulf, it will question the sustainability of migration to these countries as a viable long-term adaptation strategy.

Florian Bonnefoi holds an M.A. in Social Sciences from ENS Lyon and is set to defend his PhD in Social Geography at the University of Poitiers (Migrinter Lab/LAVUE) in December 2024. He has received funding from the CNRS and the CEDEJ to study the interactions between society and the environment in the Nile Delta region. For the past four years, his work has focused on the multifaceted vulnerabilities of local communities and how these are exacerbated by climate and environmental degradation. His work explores the nexus between environment and migration, following various socio-professional groups in their internal and international migration.