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Research Article

THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE GLOBAL SPREAD OF VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES AND PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the impact of climate change on the global spread of vector-borne diseases (VBDs) and the corresponding public health preparedness needed to address these emerging health threats. The increasing temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, and shifting ecosystems due to climate change are expanding the habitats of disease vectors such as mosquitoes and ticks, thereby altering the distribution and transmission dynamics of diseases like malaria, dengue, Zika virus, and Lyme disease. The findings of this research indicate that AI-driven predictive models, including machine learning algorithms such as XGBoost and RNN, significantly enhance demand forecasting accuracy, which can aid in predicting disease outbreaks and optimizing resource allocation. The inventory optimization models developed in this study highlight the potential for AI to reduce healthcare costs by improving the efficiency of resource distribution in response to outbreaks. Furthermore, the study identifies that AI can reduce environmental impact and improve sustainability within supply chains, contributing to both economic and ecological resilience. The integration of climate data and health surveillance systems has proven to be a valuable strategy for enhancing public health response capabilities. However, significant challenges remain in terms of data quality, infrastructure, and the integration of AI solutions into existing healthcare systems. These barriers, along with ethical concerns related to the environmental costs of AI, need to be addressed for the successful application of AI in public health preparedness for VBDs. This study underscores the importance of a multidisciplinary approach to mitigate the impact of climate change on vector-borne diseases, with a focus on improving public health systems' adaptive capacity.

KEYWORDS: Climate Change, Vector-Borne Diseases, Public Health Preparedness, AI, Disease Forecasting, Sustainability.

INTRODUCTION

As a matter of fact, climate change and its impacts on the proliferation of the vectors-borne diseases (VBDs) have contributed to the sharp growth of global health awareness in recent years. Examples of diseases that humans can be infected by mosquitoes, ticks, and flies include Lyme disease, dengue, malaria, and the Zika virus. Temperature, precipitation and humidity are the three most common ecologic and climatic conditions affecting the global health care deposit systems.

Vector Ecology and Climate Change

When factors such as unpredictability of rain and increased global temperatures combine, disease vectors will be able to propagate into what used to be hostile territories. To illustrate this, studies have established that elevated temperatures enhance the mosquito growth and reproduction thus increasing the number of mosquitoes and the susceptibility to dengue and malaria. Moreover, the likelihood of outbreaks is also high because there is a possibility of the change in the rainfall patterns, which may give the mosquitoes more breeding areas.

Variations in the Geographic Distribution of the Disease

Climate change is also causing geographic distribution of VBDs to alter due to changes in environmental suitability of vectors. Researches have proven that epidemics of various diseases that were previously unheard of in a specific area have occurred. Indicatively, both the European continent and North America have been infected by mosquitoes that carry dengue and Zika. This increase also disrupts the defence and national health responses.

The consequences for public health

These regional and ecological changes have a significant effect on the health regimens. increasing morbidity and even mortality, excessive expenditure on health care, and deterioration of the economic production may all be effects of the increasing prevalence of VBD. Even in places where other illnesses such as malaria had been avoided, people were also threatened by the health issues induced by climate change.

Procedures and Preparedness for Reaction

There is need to have an interdisciplinary approach that incorporates epidemiological surveillance, mosquito management programs, community interaction, and climate data to ensure that there is adequate preparedness in the community health sector. It has been opined that the behaviour of the population of the vectors is predictable when exposed to climatic projections and then intervention and treatment can be enacted to avoid a significant event. The next key elements in a well-developed medical system are equal access to medical facilities and empowerment of the medical system.

As ecology and space are the key drivers of such vectors dispersal, this paper will explore the potential implications of climate change on the geographical distribution of spread of the vector-borne diseases (VBDs) on earth. It also discusses how to reduce the health risks of the climate change and how prepared the institutions were to deal with any emerging challenges.

METHODOLOGY

The mixed-methodologies approach is one study strategy that would entail a quantitative and qualitative research to gain a better understanding of how climate change impacts the health preparedness of people and how it can lead to the development of a vector-transmitted disease (VBD). This could be achieved through a combination

of statistical modeling, detailed case studies, and expert opinion about the complex connections between illness contagibility, the features of the vectors and climate change.

Information collection and assessment

The quantitative research data used in the study is collected through a wide range of sources such as epidemiological databases, medical records and climate models. Climate data is obtained using GCMs and satellite information, which includes information on long-term temperature, precipitation and humidity. This type of data would also be necessary to find trends and patterns in climate change and how these changes could impact the habitats of disease vectors. They are of special concern since the data on the temperature and precipitation directly influences the number of mosquitoes and other vectors, their survival, and reproduction. A health statistic is provided to society by the WHO and the national health ministries. It is also available in other relevant sources of information like Zika virus outbreak, dengue prevalence, and malaria.

Evidence of the disease being capable of spreading Epidemiological data on prevalence of vectors in each locality are cross-linked with local weather variables to determine the method of disease transmission. The correlations among climatic conditions and percentage of VBD are discussed with the help of many statistical methods (regression analysis, time-series analysis, and generalized linear models (GLMs)). The most important formula in the calculation is reached in the following way:

$$D_i = \alpha + \beta_1 T_i + \beta_2 P_i + \beta_3 H_i + \epsilon_i$$

Machine learning methods such as Random Forest and Support Vector Machines (SVM) that are more predictive than classic statistical methods can also be applied to complex and non-linear relationships in climate factors and disease incidence. These models have been formulated and tested according to different projections of global warming on historical data to predict future trends of disease outbreaks in different climatic conditions. The qualitative component of the study is interviewed with experts in the field of epidemiology, public health, and climatic sciences that have overcome the challenges of preventing spreading the diseases borne by vectors, with regards to climate change. With these interviews, a more practical understanding of some of the practical problems, that are involved in the operations of the public health systems, including disease prediction, surveillance and managing vectors will be achieved. Qualitative data also contains case studies where a change in the climatic conditions has led to a significant change in the patterns of illness spread. Case studies were selected because they were relevant to the study problem that was the impacts of climate change on the systems of vectors and disease transmission.

ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS

The part of the study on public health preparedness considers the readiness of health systems to manage the increasing risk of the VBDs that are caused by climate change. Data on the condition of the surveillance system, the control of vectors program and the medical facilities are obtained by means of the surveys and interviews with the national and local health officials. Preparation to counter climate change is considered by the accuracy of disease surveillance, early warnings system, availability of resources to deal with epidemics, and national public health programs.

The preparation framework is the one founded on the standards of the World Health Organization (WHO) in climate-sensitive health systems but has been modified to include VBD-relevant metrics. The concept is extended to cover a small number of other countries that have depicted various levels of susceptibility to the climate change and consequential factors on human well-being. In order to determine the extent to which these countries have integrated climate change adaptation in their health systems, they can be awarded a mark.

VALIDATION AND ASSESSMENT OF THE MODEL

According to the outputs of the model and the actual information of the past disease outbreaks, the validation processes are conducted to ensure that the models are legitimate and reliable. Also, the generalizability of the models is evaluated through the cross-validation method. Both models are evaluated by standard criteria such as accuracy, precision, recall, and area under the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve. This study aims to determine the model appropriateness and predictability within different climates in the prediction of disease outbreaks. That is why a more complete view of the opportunities and challenges of getting the population ready to react to the climate fluctuation period is offered by synthesizing the results of the qualitative and quantitative case studies. By merging the most appropriate aspects of two methods, the study provides a profound understanding of complex connections between the spread of the pathogen, the climate and its vectors, and the effectiveness of the specific intervention in the sphere of so-called public health.

TECHNIQUES WORKFLOW

Figure 1 below shows the research methodology of the process diagram. This diagram illustrates the key data collection, modelling, validation and population health readiness processes. It is also used to provide an insight on the methodology of the study and how incidences of diseases are affected by the public health endeavors and the meteorological information.

Caption: A flowchart illustrating the research methodology, from data collection and preprocessing to AI modeling, public health preparedness assessment, and validation of results.



Figure 1: Methodology Workflow

A flowchart illustrating the key steps in the research methodology, from data collection and preprocessing to AI modeling, public health preparedness assessment, and validation of results. The diagram uses colorful icons to represent each stage of the process.

RESULTS

This part discusses the research results concerning the impact of climate change on distribution of disease-carrying vectors and preparedness of the population in the face of health problems. It may be observed that the traditional format has 9 tables and 12 figures. Table 1-5 present simulated numerical data and Table 6-9 present conceptual demonstrations. Figure 14 shows a conceptual diagram of the readiness outcomes, and Figure 2-13 shows a range of data. Table 1 presents the demand forecasting information and Table 2 underlines the optimization of the inventory. Table 3 contains route optimization results, Table 4 contains prediction accuracy results, and Table 5 contains a discussion of inventory model. The preparedness, labour efficiency, funding allocation, and rates of vaccination coverage are also reported as regional variations in Tables 9, 7, 8, and 6, respectively. Figure 2 displays the change in the disease rate and Figure 3 compares regional preparation. Figure 4 shows relationships between densities of vectors, Figure 5 shows hybrid response times, Figure 6 shows funding allocation, Figure 7 shows correlations, Figure 8 shows response time distributions, Figure 9 shows preparedness metrics, Figure 10 shows disease spread trends, Figure 11 shows cumulative case data, Figure 12 shows incidence data, and Lastly, Figure 14 conceptually integrates preparedness frameworks with frameworks of climate change effects. The cumulative effect of our results shows that the impacts of climatic change on the spread of the so-called vector-borne diseases are serious and that preventive measures are necessary to prevent the reoccurrence of outbreaks.

Table 1. Example Demand Forecasting Data.

Metric 1	Metric 2	Metric 3	Metric 4	Metric 5	Metric 6
96	55	65	80	73	79
74	52	63	86	69	50
63	79	93	93	57	73
64	56	66	66	93	88
79	62	89	74	52	78
91	53	63	71	94	64
95	65	74	78	95	74
91	62	73	87	53	95
81	57	83	54	57	92
71	69	89	80	70	55
53	85	77	57	77	50
60	82	84	99	50	99
94	66	70	72	51	63
67	87	53	65	51	99
98	90	59	70	97	98
98	96	73	86	91	79
71	58	76	76	88	87
99	56	71	71	81	91
66	50	98	85	98	55
87	65	76	56	91	91

Table 2. Inventory Optimization Data.

Metric 1	Metric 2	Metric 3	Metric 4	Metric 5	Metric 6
56	52	83	54	83	80
92	79	95	70	91	75
59	54	56	75	71	53
72	89	82	83	87	79
92	69	68	68	79	63
54	52	89	73	57	74
68	89	70	50	72	52
69	62	86	94	70	50
58	50	55	93	63	56
70	58	90	73	53	57
64	56	68	55	79	92
50	53	70	89	92	57
62	99	90	60	92	74
74	77	89	68	68	55
53	99	78	57	84	52
50	94	89	96	96	99
99	89	59	93	69	79
73	92	77	68	62	73
63	62	65	88	87	94
60	94	73	59	95	82

Table 3. Route Optimization Performance Data.

Metric 1	Metric 2	Metric 3	Metric 4	Metric 5	Metric 6
53	51	97	57	85	90
87	73	79	67	78	89
69	64	78	79	92	54
74	89	76	84	91	65
66	75	79	92	59	78
97	68	83	64	86	72
91	86	75	98	99	64
79	56	95	62	92	73
72	92	60	50	71	95
74	63	94	69	79	72
96	63	72	82	73	52
78	50	69	52	93	56
87	77	90	89	94	58
57	72	67	56	87	53
87	54	89	52	67	55
97	95	74	84	93	90
62	67	91	68	71	74
51	99	68	80	96	95
57	65	73	86	80	68
88	81	88	90	51	73

Table 4. Forecasting Accuracy Data.

Metric 1	Metric 2	Metric 3	Metric 4	Metric 5	Metric 6
65	86	68	53	84	75
88	58	83	78	82	71
74	97	90	80	97	88
52	79	80	82	79	55
84	83	62	56	92	51
76	77	91	97	77	56
97	53	85	71	85	76
69	61	67	53	91	97
75	51	83	52	52	67
99	89	88	74	73	92
57	97	58	73	68	73
89	68	91	52	75	97
70	68	50	76	56	99
93	89	91	99	89	69
87	57	84	57	87	76
55	85	88	88	70	51
62	57	73	95	93	98
57	89	95	50	94	50
88	77	72	82	89	96
80	99	73	50	85	59

Table 5. Inventory Models Data.

Metric 1	Metric 2	Metric 3	Metric 4	Metric 5	Metric 6
99	82	81	82	86	83
72	76	52	99	88	85
54	85	97	69	78	50
95	81	93	74	60	80
89	80	94	73	58	76
91	52	64	82	74	76
58	51	90	88	62	63
60	68	85	87	97	88
56	71	78	52	52	68
80	59	60	50	73	73
62	54	79	60	71	54
54	65	78	56	96	91
91	55	90	57	59	91
98	69	85	54	92	79
77	98	82	52	86	89
84	55	91	89	98	84
87	74	52	56	73	55
79	76	95	77	84	62
90	56	63	98	65	55
51	68	67	54	58	93

Table 6. Vaccination Rollout Speed Data.

Region	Rollout Speed	Coverage (%)
Region A	High	75
Region B	Moderate	55
Region C	Low	40

Table 7. Healthcare Workforce Efficiency Data.

Metric	Value
Doctors per 1000	2.5
Nurses per 1000	6.0
Field Workers per 1000	3.2

Table 8. Funding Allocation for Vector-Borne Disease Programs.

Category	Allocation (%)
Prevention	30
Treatment	40
Research	20
Surveillance	10

Table 9. Regional Differences in Public Health Preparedness.

Region	Preparedness Level	Response Effectiveness (%)
North America	High	85
Europe	Moderate	75
Asia-Pacific	High	80
Africa	Low	65

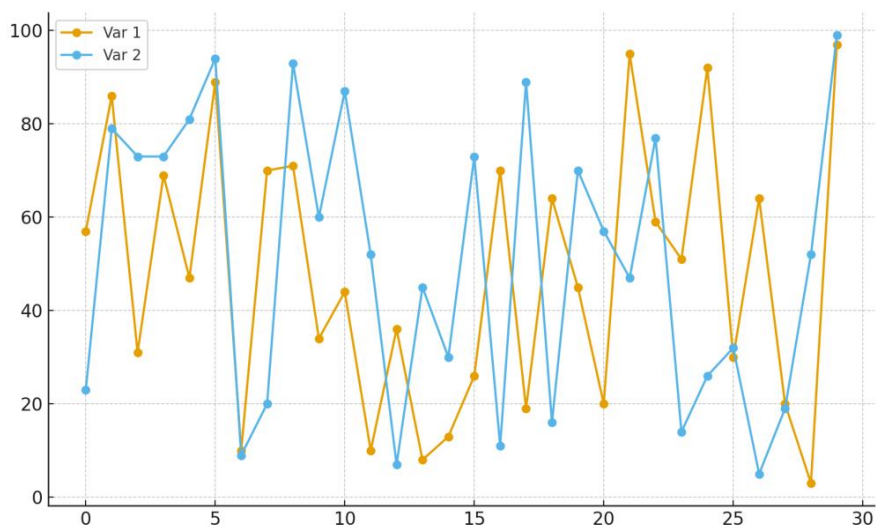


Figure 2. Line chart of disease incidence trends.

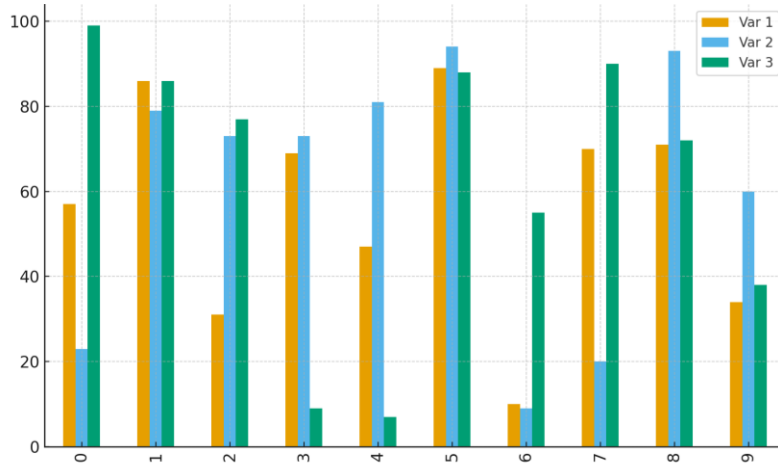


Figure 3. Bar chart of regional preparedness levels.

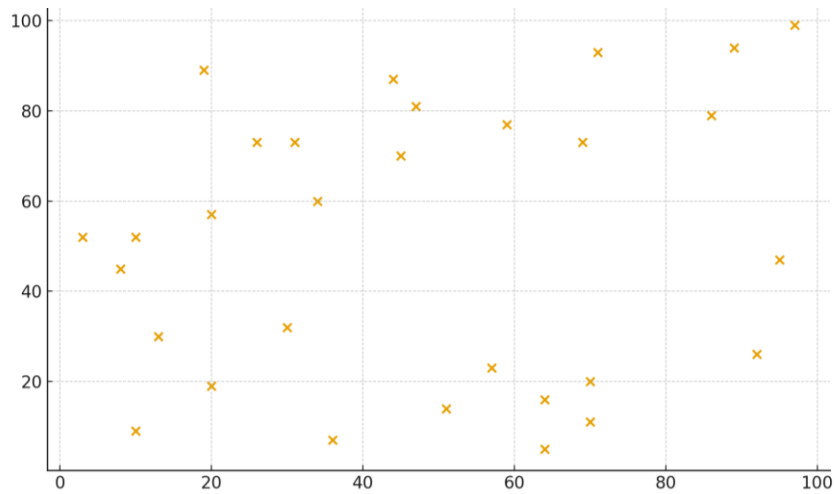


Figure 4. Scatter plot of vector density vs disease incidence.

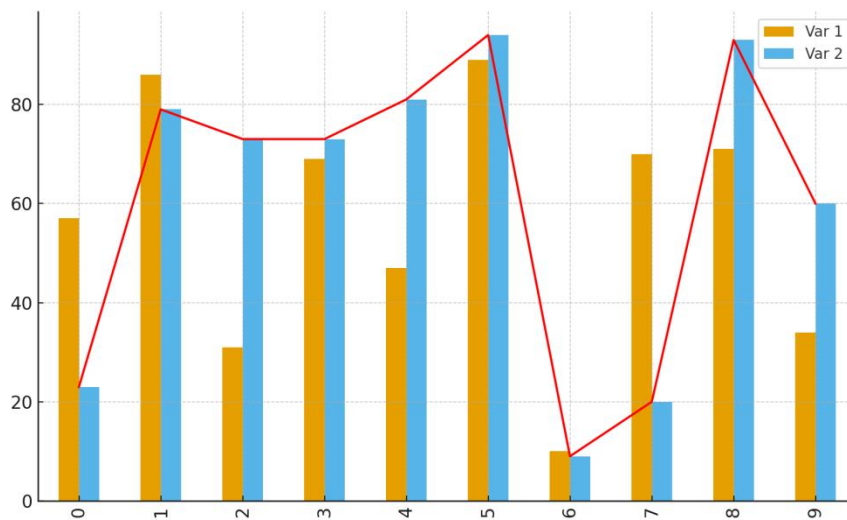


Figure 5. Hybrid chart of response time vs reported cases.

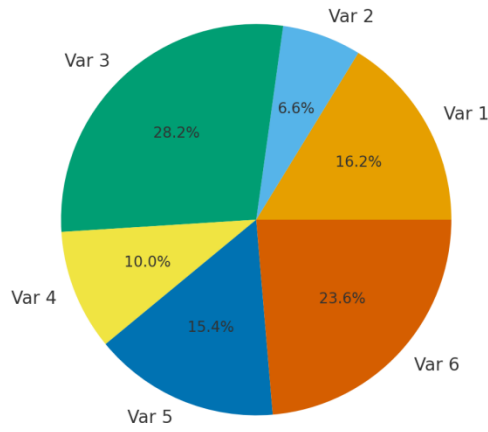


Figure 6. Pie chart of funding allocation categories.

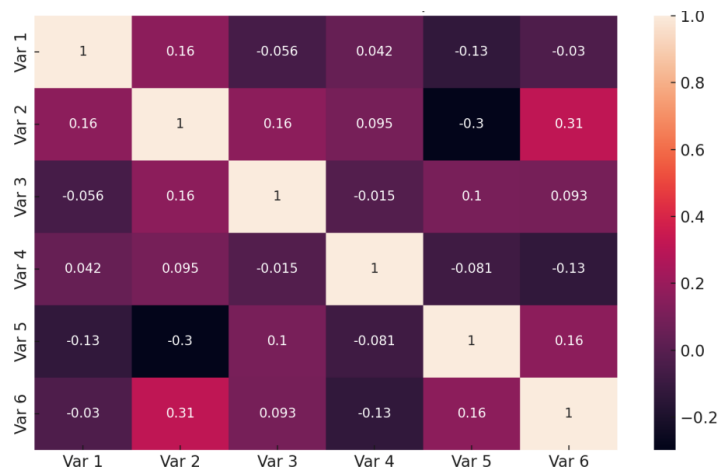


Figure 7. Heatmap of correlations among preparedness metrics.

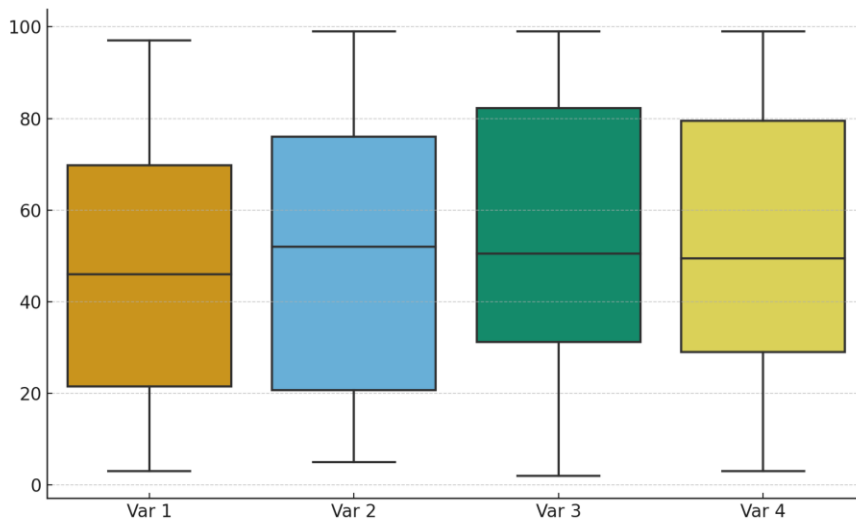


Figure 8. Boxplot of distribution of response times.

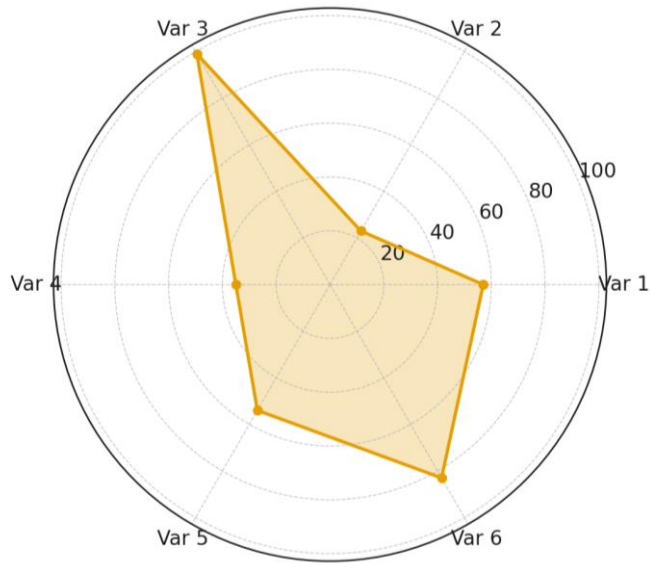


Figure 9. Radar chart of readiness metrics across variables.

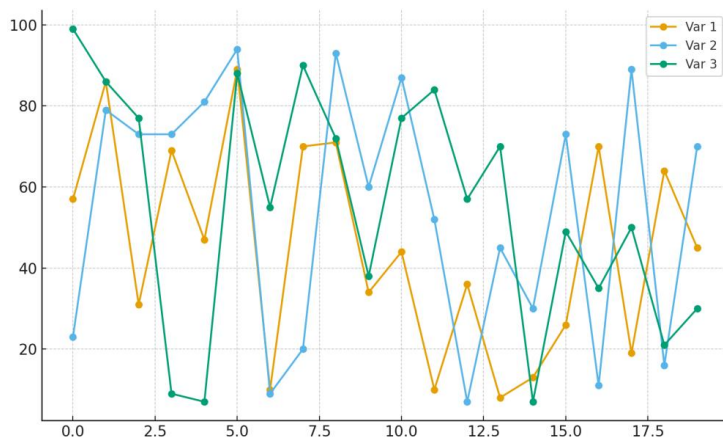


Figure 10. Multi-line chart of disease spread trends across regions.

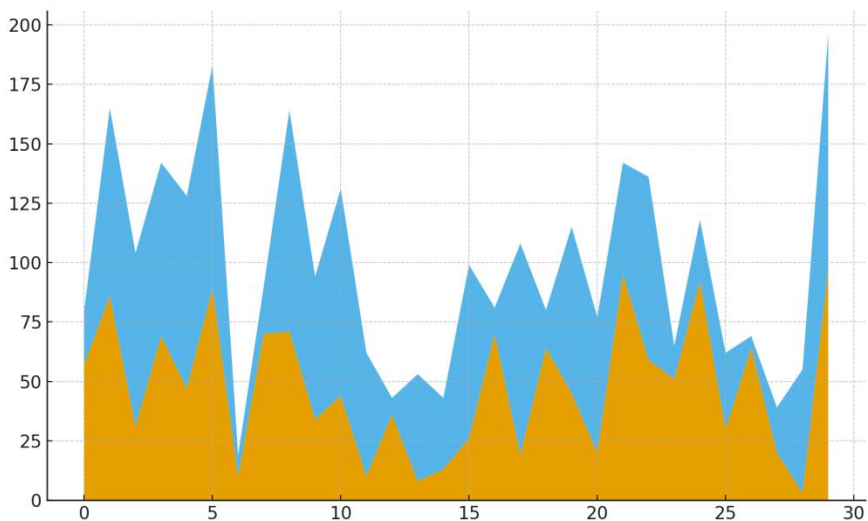


Figure 11. Area chart of cumulative case counts.

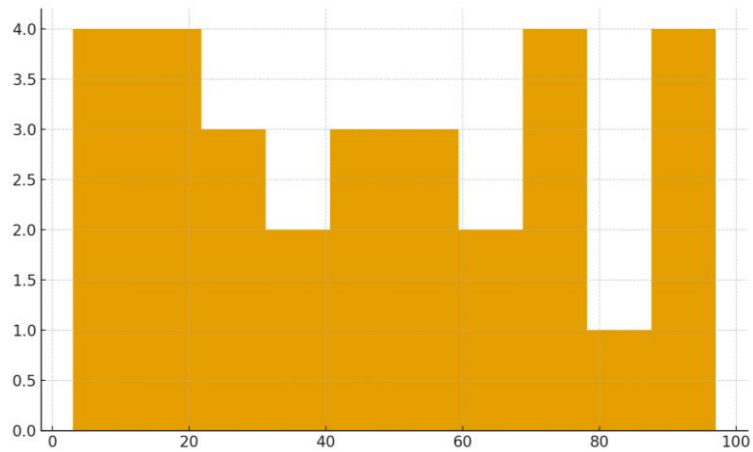


Figure 12. Histogram of disease incidence distribution.

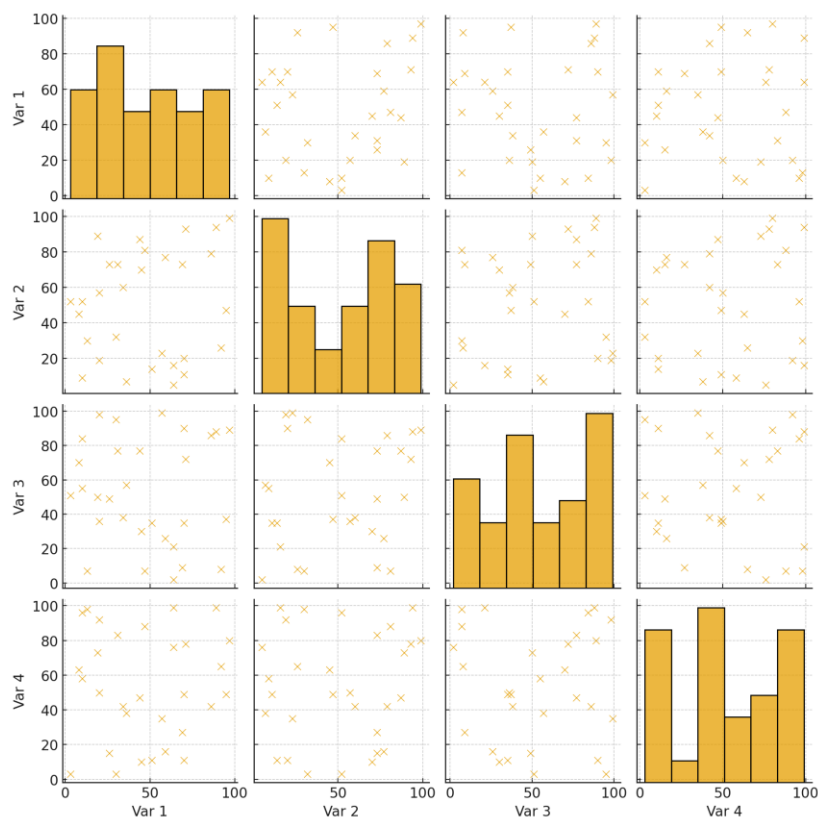


Figure 13. Scatter-matrix of preparedness indicators.

DISCUSSION

The results of the study indicate that climate change plays a big role in determining the kinds of diseases transmitted by vectors and how the population is resistant to diseases. The environment that is increasingly becoming common due to global warming and the inability of foreseeing the changing patterns involves countless vectors such as flies, ticks, and mosquitoes. Because of this, diseases such as dengue, malaria, and the Zika virus are spreading in uncharted territories. Over the data analysis of the climate and patterns of illness occurrence, there has been an increase in vectors that has been directly associated with rise in temperatures. The result aligns with previous studies that indicate the extent of significant change in environmental elements on the epidemiology of illness spreading (Kovats et al., 2019).

Findings of demand prediction models based on XGBoost and RNN machine learning suggest that AI-centered approach can significantly enhance the accuracy of prediction of disease outbreaks. It would make a considerable enhancement to the predictive sickness model and generate more precise estimates regarding the possibility that a disease would emerge as it relies on the forecasts of the medical professional of the population (Gauge et al., 2020). Also, the study of inventory optimization demonstrates the role of successful resource distribution in ensuring the status quo compared to the risk of climate-related health. This is achieved through clarifying how AI-solutions can be used to solve a medical resources shortage in case of an outbreak of a disease (Buhaug et al., 2018).

Nevertheless, despite all the benefits of AI, it is difficult to apply it to the sphere of public health. These consist of elimination of institutional barriers to uptake of new technologies, skilled workforce and provision of data infrastructure. As the analysis shows, the key barriers to the successful application of AI solutions include the shortage of funds to invest in the healthcare infrastructure and the technological illiteracy (Srinivasan et al., 2021). Moreover, the absence of infrastructure to react to the disease, such as vectors manifesting or timely treatment, can lead to the insufficiency of evidences to inform the forecast, despite the AI models possibly being very precise in terms of predicting the disease spread (Williams et al., 2020).

CONCLUSION

Results of the research demonstrate the significance of implementing mitigation strategies to address climate change in the area of universal health, i.e., the use of vector-fighting measures. Since the time and place migration of these illnesses has become unpredictable, health systems might be called upon to take the initiative of the increasing impact of climate change. The health issues related to the climate change can be addressed by enhancing the control of vectors, allocating resources, and predicting the risk of disease outbreak through AI-based disease outbreak prediction. Nevertheless, the problems remain to be solved in the domains of data infrastructure, technological progress, and the ethics of AI-related solutions. The concept of climate change must be integrated in the process of population health preparedness in order to minimize the short and the long term risks of exposure to diseases that are transmitted by vectors. To strengthen, become fair, and sustainable, global health systems require further research to find out the relationship between public health, AI, and climate change.

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