

European Humanitarian Forum

Forum humanitaire européen



24-26 JAN, 2022



Factoring in the consequences of Climate Change in humanitarian action Key recommendations as emerged from Field Consultations held in Amman, Bangkok and Nairobi in November 2021

Climate Change and its humanitarian consequences should be systematically integrated as a cross-cutting theme in risk-informed humanitarian programming and coordination. People should remain at the centre of what we collectively do.

Noting that the current humanitarian system is not fit to address the impact of climate change on (escalating) needs and risks, analysis of medium and long-term impact of climate change by sectors is essential for identifying what actions need to be taken in the present to reduce future impact.

To achieve the above, we must collectively:

Continue to invest in comprehensive risk analysis and building the evidence base. Greater investment in reducing disaster displacement and understanding that human mobility should be integrated into climate adaptation and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) frameworks.

At the same time, interventions which co-create with communities at all stages from risk analysis to programme design and implementation are essential for effective action, and therefore we should:

Invest in support of governments and other actors to systematically strengthen, institutionalize, resource and maintain functional multi-hazard Early Warning Systems ensuring conflict sensitivity of such systems.

At local level, this means investing in community-level inclusive leadership and first responders' capacities; identify local early-warning reporters; link communities using digital platforms to improve information flows, drawing on indigenous knowledge and practices and allowing real-time monitoring of local risks.

States must support improved collaboration between ministries and institutions to ensure more comprehensive and holistic approaches to reduce the humanitarian needs associated with unmitigated climate change and environmental degradation.

At global level this means investing in sustainable and effective Early Warning Systems linked with rapid and anticipatory response mechanisms.

Humanitarian actors should sign, commit, and adapt the Climate and Environment Charter. An international certification process should replace individual donor requirements in the future.

Noting that greater coherence of climate, disaster risk, and humanitarian financing mechanisms is needed to effectively address the impacts of Climate Change, the humanitarian ecosystem must show good practice in doing its own homework. Access to climate financing and funding for humanitarian action poses very different requirements, objectives, and indicators of impact which need to be better streamlined. We must be coherent, support research and want to support in the interest of those most vulnerable communities.

Therefore, we call for:

- A greater proportion of climate finance must reach communities affected by conflict and violence.
- Climate finance must be more evenly allocated between mitigation and adaptation efforts.
- EU/MS should continue to ensure that Social Protection Systems more shock responsive and channel emergency responses through them, when and where feasible, creating linkages to climate change adaptation.
- Donors should ensure additional funding required to minimise the footprint of humanitarian actors on their environment is made available.