

Briefing for Sub-Committee Meeting

Cecilia Aipira, UNEP Ecosystems Division, Disasters and Conflicts Branch

13 December 2022

Contents

- **What We Do**
- **Timeline: 25 Years of the Branch**
- **Where We Work**
- **Key Thematic Areas**
 - Disaster Risk Reduction
 - Response & Recovery
 - Policy & Analysis
- **Investments by the Branch**
- **Challenges**



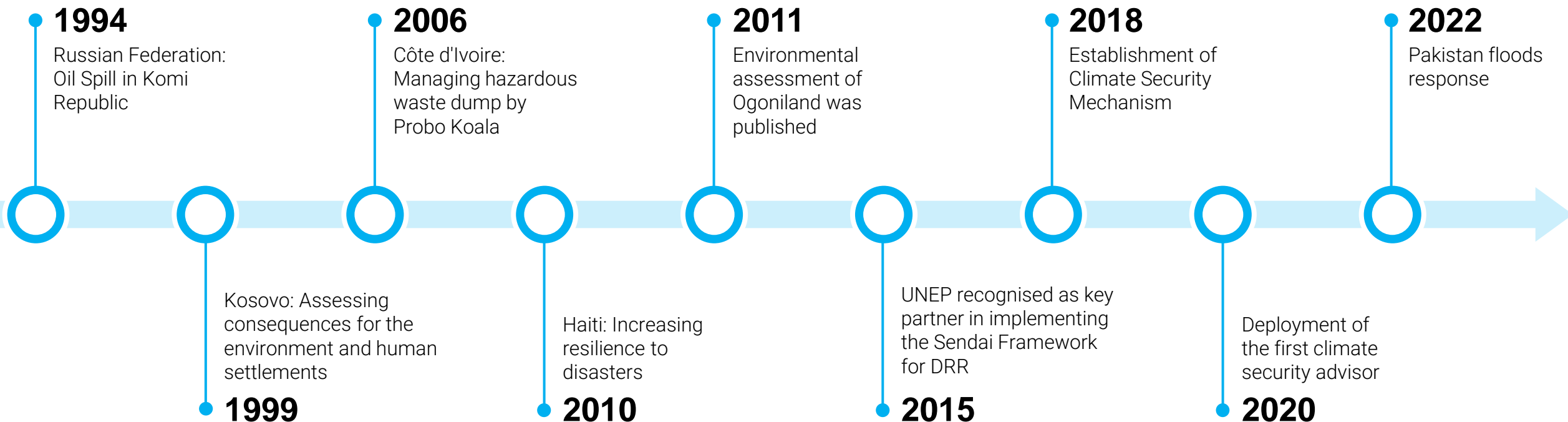
UN Photo/Marco Dormino

What We Do

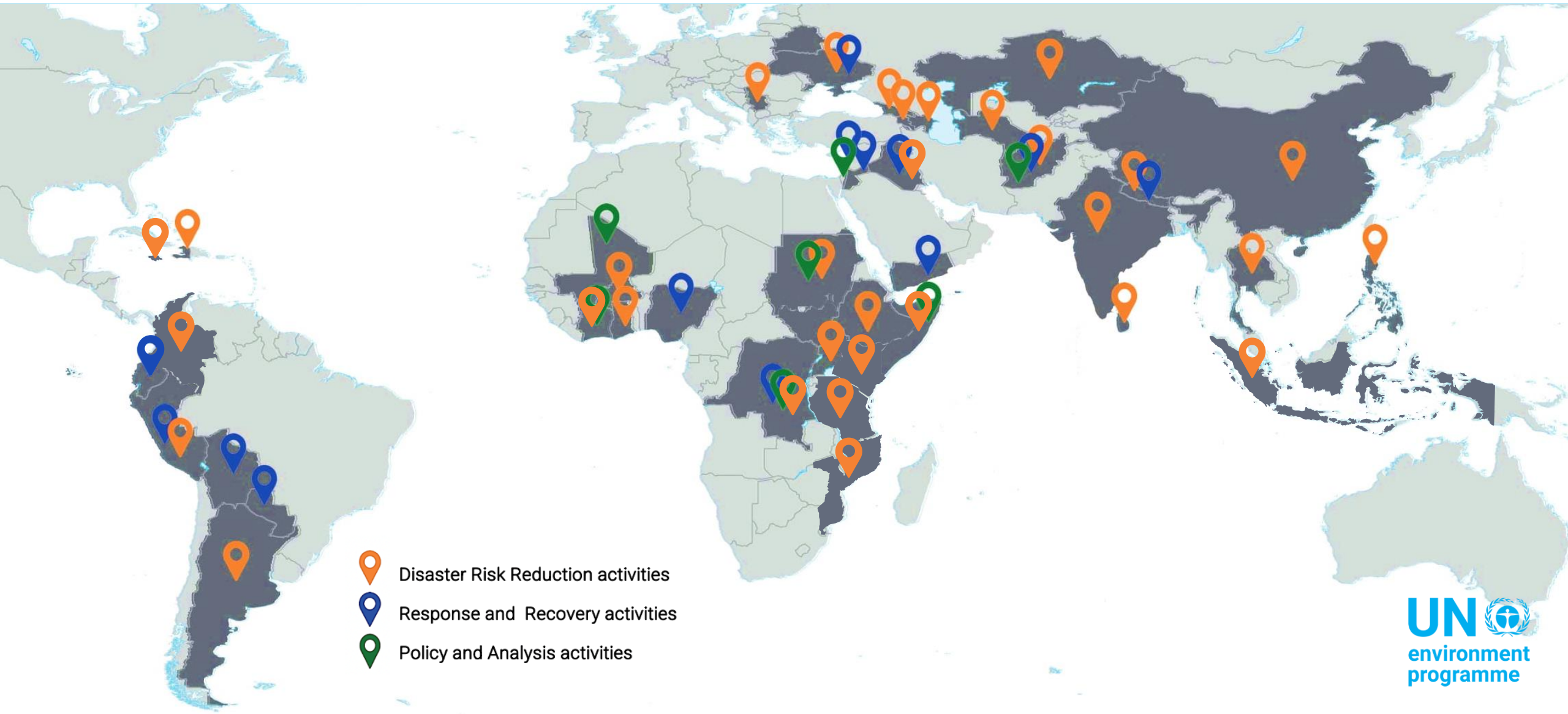


The Branch supports member states, the UN Systems, development partners, and other partners across the world in analysing and addressing the **environmental drivers** and **impacts of crises**. Building on these, we provide advisory services to our partners and co-design solutions that foster **resilience-building**.

Timeline: 25 Years of the Branch



Where We Work



Our Key Thematic Areas



**Disaster Risk
Reduction**



**Response &
Recovery**



**Policy &
Analysis**

Disaster Risk Reduction

WORKSTREAMS

- Promoting Nature-based Solutions for Disaster and Climate Resilience
- Reducing industrial pollution risks from extractives
- Policy level engagements to advance implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction



Field mission in Haiti

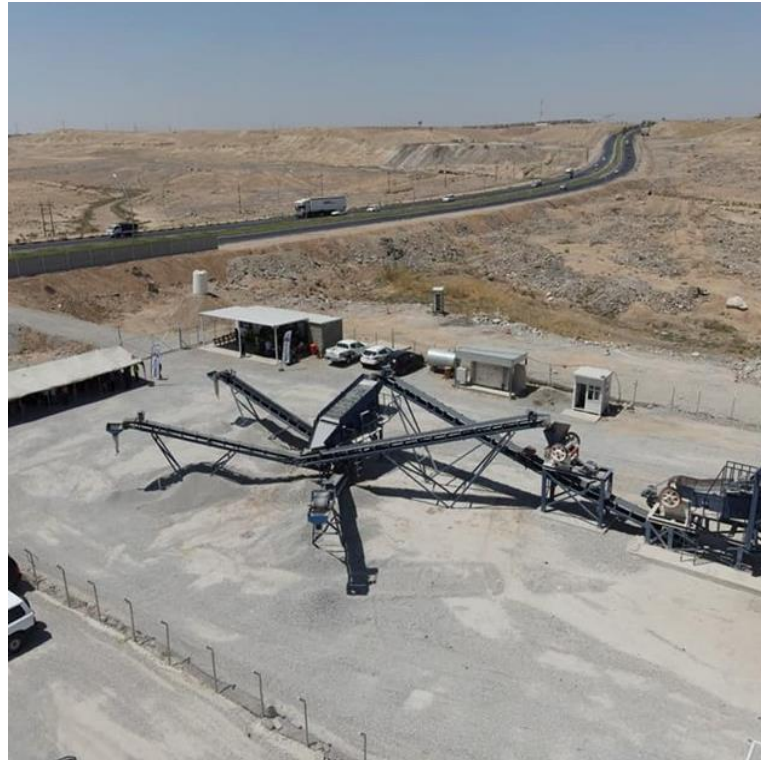
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Runs largest MOOC on NbS for **Climate and Disaster Resilience**, ranked the **No. 1 course** in the SDG Academy
- Eco-DRR projects helped local communities protect and restore close to **40,000 hectares** of different ecosystems across five countries in Asia, Africa and the Caribbeans
- Strengthened **oil spill preparedness and response plans** in Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Somalia and Mozambique

Response and Recovery

WORKSTREAMS

- Responding to disasters and conflicts at short notice – within 48hrs
- Support on post-conflict and post-disaster needs assessments
- Recovery activities in disaster/conflict affected countries



Mosul debris recycling center

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Responded to over **250 disaster and conflict incidences** through JEU & the Branch
- Assessment and advisory support on disaster waste clean-up from the **Beirut Port explosion**
- Restoration of Iraq marshlands - now **World Heritage Site/Ramsar Site**
- **25,000mt debris** cleared and first **debris recycling centre in Mosul** handover of the Government

Policy and Analysis

WORKSTREAMS

- Support to UN peace operations and peacebuilding
- Contributing with climate, pollution and environmental governance dimensions into peace and conflict issues
- Data analysis models and environment foresight to support evidence-based decision-making



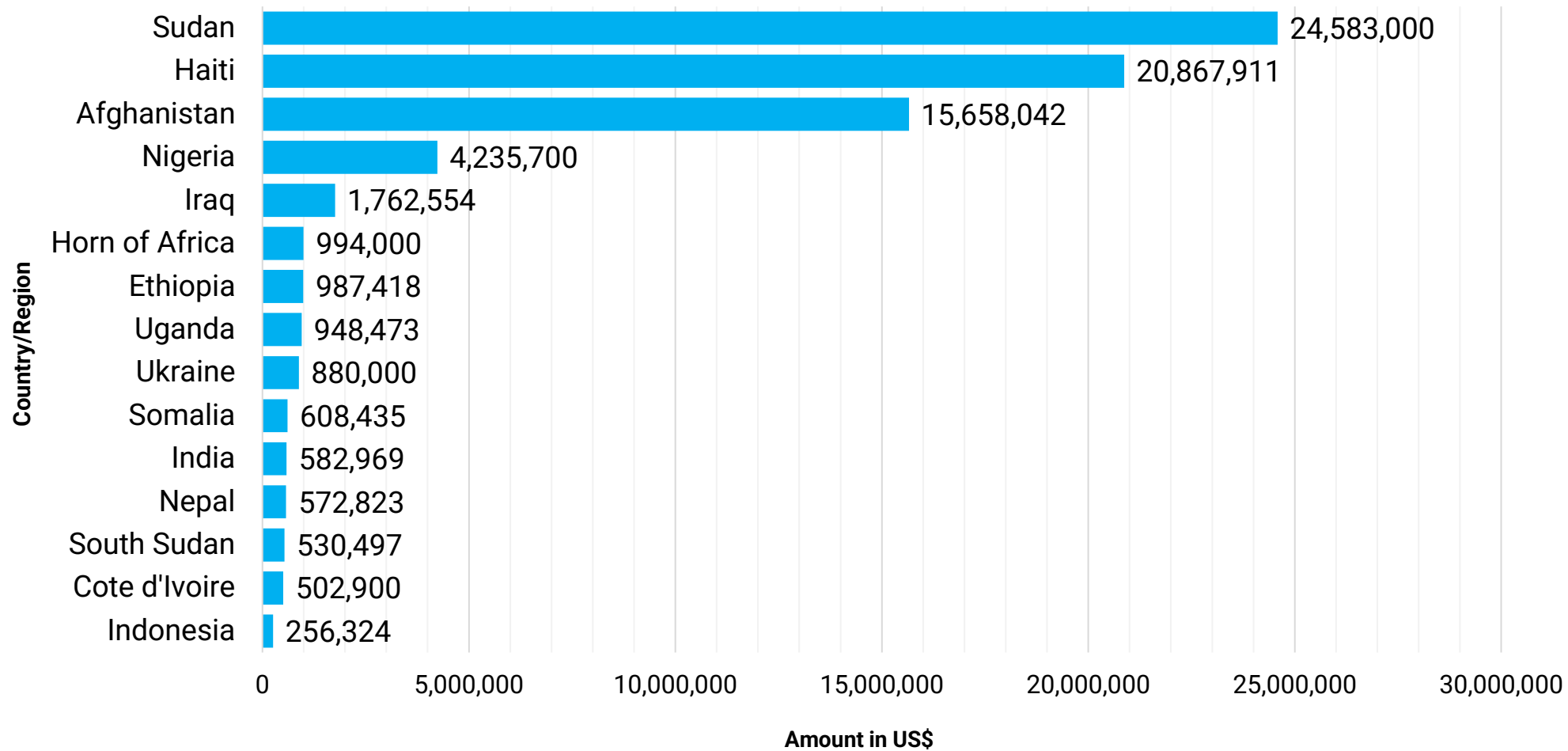
Field mission in Sudan

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Deployment of the **first climate security advisor**
- **Establishment of CSM:** Creation of tools and dedicated capacities to the UN system
- IGAD establishment of regional **Climate Security Coordination Mechanism**. It will build the capacity of IGAD MS to anticipate, prevent and mitigate climate-related risks to peace and security in the Horn of Africa.

Disasters and Conflict Investments

UNEP DCB - Project Size in US\$ by Country (2019 - 2022)



Challenges

- Growing demand from MS for Response and Recovery work due to climate change.
- Response requires rapid deployment, which warrants a funding mechanism that allows quick disbursement and flexibility.
- Increasing demand for Policy and Analysis services, due to a wide recognition of the linkages between environmental degradation, climate change and instability, and a search for environmental solutions in conflict-affected countries.



A VOICE FROM THE FIELD



Thank You

Cecilia Aipira, UNEP Ecosystems Division, Disasters and Conflicts Branch

13 December 2022