

DISASTERS AND CONFLICTS BRANCH

WHO WE ARE

The Disasters and Conflicts Branch of seeks to minimize the environmental threats to human well-being from the environmental causes and consequences of disasters and conflicts. Since the start of the new millennium, disasters and conflicts have directly affected over two billion people. By addressing environmental degradation and resource management, UNEP is working to build more resilient and peaceful societies.

WHAT WE DO

The Disasters and Conflicts 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, the Branch provides advisory services to its partners and co-designs innovative solutions that foster peace-building and resilience building

RESOURCES



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the Branch Booklet



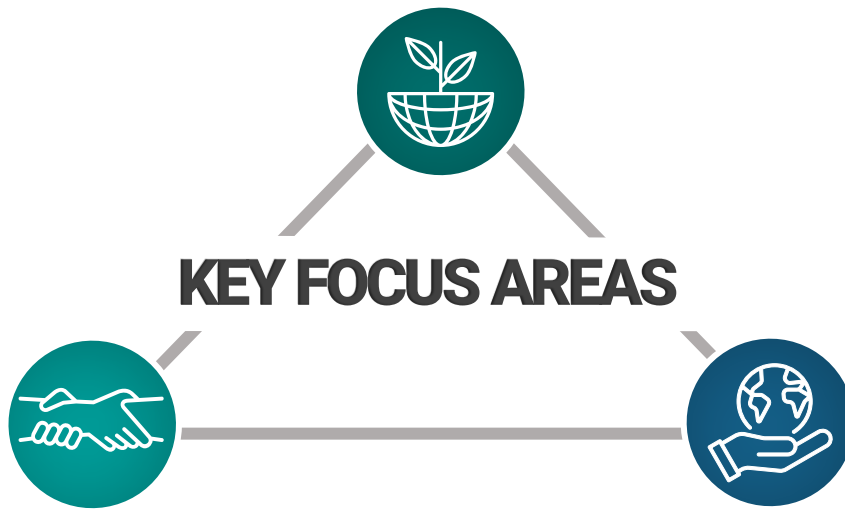
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Branch Webpage



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our key thematic areas

Disaster Risk Reduction

The Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Unit addresses environmental drivers and impacts of disaster risks and promotes the scaling up of environmental management best practices for reducing disaster risks, with a focus on nature-based solutions for enhancing disaster and climate resilience. Moreover, it provides technical and institutional support to governments and civil society to reduce industrial risks, associated with the oil and energy sectors, to avoid and minimize disasters and environmental degradation.



Response & Recovery

The Response and Recovery Unit supports conflict and disaster affected countries in addressing pressing environmental risks to help promote sustainable stabilization, recovery and reconstruction efforts. It assists governments and the UN system by conducting scientific environmental impact assessments of disasters and conflicts, providing technical advisory support and strengthening national environmental management capacities. Key areas of intervention include oil, chemical and mining pollution incidents, debris and waste management and ecosystem restoration.



UNEP/OCHA Joint Environment Unit

The UNEP/OCHA Joint Environment Unit (JEU) pairs UNEP's environmental expertise with the humanitarian mandate of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). It responds to the environmental dimensions of emergencies and crises by coordinating international efforts, mobilizing partners and equipment, and providing remote environmental advice to support countries that have requested assistance. The JEU can mobilize technical expertise within 48 hours in response to natural and human induced hazards or a combination of both.

24/7 JEU Emergency contact: +41 22 917 1600 or ochaunep@un.org.

Policy and Analysis Unit

The Policy and Analysis Unit helps governments identify and manage environmental challenges with potential risks to peace and security. It takes transboundary action to address these challenges and strengthen environmental cooperation. The unit monitors, analyses and communicates key environmental trends and their implications for peace, stability, and security. Furthermore, it **designs politically-informed and gender-responsive environmental policy and programming solutions** that can be implemented in complex or insecure contexts.



Climate Security Mechanism

The Climate Security Mechanism (CSM) was created in 2018 as a joint initiative by the Department for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the Department of Peace Operations (DPO) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). As such, the CSM acts as a reference point on climate security for stakeholders across and beyond the UN. It aims to strengthen the capacity of the UN system to analyse and address the adverse impacts of climate change on peace and security. To this end, CSM supports field missions, UN Resident Coordinators and regional organizations to conduct climate security risk assessments and develop risk management policies and solutions.