

Climate Change and Environmental Experts

All humanitarian actors have a shared responsibility and interest in viewing their operations through a climate and environment lens. Within the context of humanitarian action, climate and environmental factors (such as scarce natural resources or changing weather patterns) are often a root cause and driver of conflicts. The environment has a direct impact on the vulnerability of affected communities and the quality of humanitarian action.

Climate Change and Environmental Experts are responsible for advising programme staff on issues related to the UN agencies' programming and country context. Advice on programme improvements and project development to address underlying issues and mitigating climate and environment damage is essential. Climate and Environment Advisers may either focus on one or more specific technical areas or play a coordination role – mainstreaming climate and environment across operations/agencies.

The Climate Change and Environmental Experts will primarily (not exclusively) be deployed by WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF, FAO and UNFPA, in both emergencies and complex protracted situations.

Examples of duties and responsibilities:

- Provide technical advice, communicate and report on climate and environmental issues.
- Develop, implement and lead programs that are adaptive, sustainable, and climate resilient.
- Undertake risk profiling, assessments and contingency planning across the humanitarian sector.
- Implement and operationalize climate/environment-smart tools and management systems (e.g. Early Warning Systems – EWS).
- Interact with national and local authorities, international agencies, clusters and sectoral working groups. Identify cross-cutting climate and environmental concerns and facilitate collaboration.
- Identify and develop training and capacity building activities for staff and stakeholders.
- Research relevant policies, regulations, best practices and funding opportunities, contributing to resource mobilization for the climate/environment portfolio.

Required qualifications:

- Professional technical experience matching the above-mentioned responsibilities.
- Relevant educational background (advanced university degree in relevant field e.g. Environmental Science, Climate Change, Disaster Management, Sustainability, Natural Resources Management).
- Previous United Nations work experience is considered a strong advantage.
- A minimum of 3 years' specific experience with climate change and environmental issues for humanitarian assistance or in an emergency response.
- 2 years international humanitarian field experience with exposure to cross-sector programming for climate and environmental issues.
- Knowledge and understanding of the complexities involved in refugee and IDP responses.
- Proficiency in one (preferably two) official UN languages. English is mandatory, while French is considered a strong advantage.