

UNITED NATIONS

CLIMATE SECURITY MECHANISM



CLIMATE SECURITY MECHANISM

PROGRESS REPORT

May 2022



CLIMATE SECURITY MECHANISM

The **Climate Security Mechanism (CSM)** is a joint initiative by the United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Department of Peace Operations (DPO). The CSM aims to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations to more systematically analyze and address the linkages between climate change, peace and security.

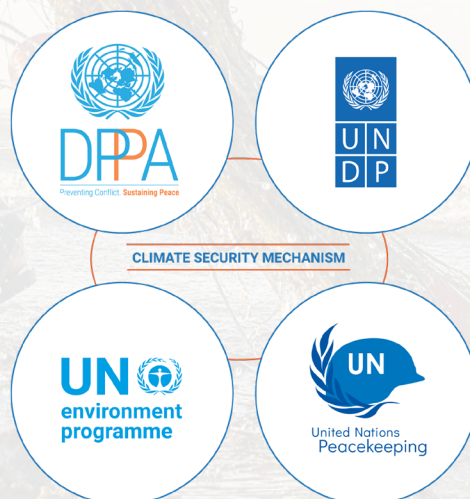


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Understanding and anticipating the cascading effects of climate change will strengthen our work on peace and security.”

António Guterres

Secretary-General of the United Nations

Address to the UN Security Council, 9 December 2021



The Climate Security Mechanism (...) allows us to better integrate climate-related security risks into our conflict prevention and peacebuilding work, and simultaneously help design peace positive adaptation and mitigation strategies.”

Rosemary DiCarlo

Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

Remarks at the 2021 Aswan Forum



Climate action and sustaining peace remain two of the defining issues of our time. As the largest implementer of climate action and sustaining peace within the UN system, UNDP is working with the Climate Security Mechanism to deliver on prevention and human security-centered approaches for people and for planet.”

Achim Steiner

Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme



The triple planetary crisis of climate change, nature and biodiversity loss and pollution and waste is not just a crisis of the environment. Water scarcity, inundations, sea level rise, falling productivity of water in agriculture and biodiversity collapses will also have serious consequences on security. The Climate Security Mechanism plays a key role in analysis and action, awareness raising, partnership creation and capacity building to address this climate, environment and security nexus.”

Inger Andersen

Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme

Programme



We need to ensure that UN peacekeeping operations have the required capabilities and operational resilience to operate safely and effectively in the face of flooding, desertification and other patterns exacerbated by climate change... We have much to learn together about how we can improve our preparedness, analysis and action to both prevent and respond to climate-related risks to peace and security.”

Jean-Pierre Lacroix

Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations



I. CSM Overview

GLOBAL PRESENCE AND HIGHLIGHTS



SINCE THE CREATION OF THE CSM, AS OF MAY 2022

15

Dedicated training sessions for integrated climate-related security risk analysis, building on the Climate Security Toolbox, organized and co-organized for practitioners across and beyond the United Nations system

800

Analysts (ca. 60% women / 40% men from within and beyond the United Nations system) trained on integrated climate-related security risk analysis and the Climate Security Toolbox through workshops, presentations, and other virtual and in-person events

18

United Nations Country Teams and/or field missions supported to include climate-related security risks in Common Country Analyses (CCAs) / Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) and/or other analysis and strategic planning processes

CSM: Climate Security Mechanism
 LAS: League of Arab States
 LCBC: Lake Chad Basin Commission
 LGA: Liptako Gourma Authority
 OSE: Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa
 UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme
 UNMISS: United Nations Mission in South Sudan
 UNOCA: United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa
 UNOWAS: United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel



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11 Meetings of the interagency Community of Practice on Climate Security held (growing participation)

250+ Climate, peace and security-related events listed and 100+ resource documents, tools, trainings, podcast series and videos shared on the online Climate Security Trello board for the use of 400+ Community of Practice colleagues (from 30+ United Nations entities)

3,786 People enrolled in the Climate Change, Peace and Security MOOC jointly developed by UN CC:Learn, UN Women, UNEP, adelphi and the CSM as of 30 May 2022, of whom 2,121 had completed at least one of the three modules (higher than average rate of completion)

CSM KEY EVENTS OVER THE PAST YEAR



Support to analysis and action in the field



Advocacy, partnerships and convening



Knowledge co-generation and management



Capacity building

Partnership with Ireland

2021/09

Ireland joins the CSM Joint Steering Committee

New initiative in South Sudan

2021/09

New focus field initiative launched in South Sudan with DPO, UNDP & the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)



JPO support (France, Norway, Denmark)

2021-22

France (October 2021), Norway (January 2022) and Denmark (February 2022) join the CSM as in-kind supporters through the provision of Junior Professional Officers

DPO joins the CSM

2021/12

Climate Finance for Sustaining Peace

2021/12

Report on Climate Finance for Sustaining Peace: Making Climate Finance Work for Conflict-Affected and Fragile Contexts (UNDP & CSM)



New initiative in the Philippines

2021/12

New focus field initiative launched in the Philippines



New initiative in the Lake Chad Basin

2022/01

New focus field initiative launched in the Lake Chad Basin with the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC)



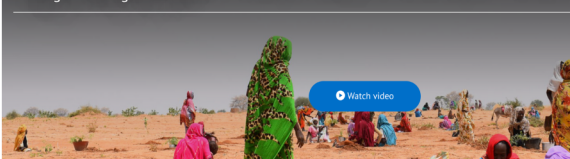
Climate, Peace & Security MOOC

2022/04

Full launch of the Climate Change, Peace and Security MOOC (UN CC:Learn, UN Women, UNEP, adelphi & CSM)



Climate Change, Peace and Security: Understanding Climate-Related Security Risks Through an Integrated Lens



IGAD-OSE HoA Agreement

2022/05

Cooperation agreement between IGAD and the Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa aimed at strengthening regional climate, peace and security mechanisms for the IGAD region and supporting Member States towards a common position

2021/07

Climate Security Series



Asia-Pacific "Climate Security Series" learning programme – 1st edition

2021/09

Scenario Game Pilot



Development of scenario training exercise on the participatory exploration of climate-related security risks – 1st pilot workshop in September 2021, 2nd pilot in February 2022

2021/11

COP 26 Side Event



COP26 side event on "Climate finance for sustaining peace" (Mali, Somalia, Sweden, Norway, ODI, UNDP & CSM)



2022/03

CSW66 Side Event



66th Commission on the Status of Women side event on "Inclusive, gender responsive and climate informed conflict prevention and peacebuilding" (Kenya, Denmark, DPPA & CSM)

2022/04

Somalia Maritime Coastal Security Foresight



Participatory workshops at community level, national level and international level to understand possible scenarios and inform actions

2022/04

Dakar Regional Conference



Regional Conference on Climate Change, Peace and Security in West Africa and the Sahel & Call to Action (UNOWAS, Ireland, Ghana & ECOWAS)

2022/05

Innovate4Climate Event



Innovate4Climate event on "Climate finance - How to leverage the peace dividend?" with Egypt, UAE, UK, CSM, UNFCCC & Green Finance Platform

2022/05

Stockholm Forum Sessions



Five sessions co-hosted by CSM entities at the 2022 Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development

● Events

● Initiatives

● Partnerships

● Products

PRIORITY AREAS OF WORK

Recognizing the interlinkages between climate change, peace and security, the CSM seeks to build synergies between climate action and peace and security activities with a particular focus on gender-sensitive responses. The CSM works directly with United Nations field missions and country teams, and with regional and sub-regional organizations, to build capacity, exchange knowledge, and achieve results that support States and communities most affected by climate-related security risks.

In recent years, the accelerating and increasingly observable effects of climate change have generated growing interest regarding their implications for peace and security. The Security Council and other international policy fora have debated the topic on multiple occasions. Communities at the front line of the dual vulnerability to climate change and insecurity are increasingly speaking out and demanding meaningful action. These trends have translated into a growing number of requests for support from United Nations entities and other partners to the CSM.

The provision of technical advice and field support has been the primary focus of the CSM during 2021, including by expanding partnerships around the world. Through the development of 12 field initiatives jointly with partners, the CSM has been able to provide targeted support in vulnerable regions highly affected by the cascading effects of climate change while continuing global efforts at mainstreaming climate, peace and security more broadly across the work of CSM entities as well as the wider United Nations system. The integration of DPO into the CSM in December 2021 has further strengthened the Mechanism's ability to support stakeholders in some of the most vulnerable regions, including peacekeeping contexts where the Security Council has recognized the destabilizing effects of climate change. The informal interagency Community of Practice on Climate Security now counts 400+ members from 30+ United Nations entities and facilitates System-wide knowledge and experience-sharing. As such, the CSM is positioned to accelerate efforts at building capacity in United Nations special political missions, peacekeeping operations and country teams to match the complexity of climate-related security risks, always with a particular focus on ensuring gender-sensitive approaches.

In collaboration with its partners, including the international research community and non-governmental organizations, the CSM has developed a flexible model of service delivery to support action in vulnerable regions. To optimize its ability to provide support across complex and unique contexts, the CSM employs a system of prioritization that facilitates gender-sensitive solutions tailored to the needs and conditions of each situation. Cutting across regional and thematic focus areas, the model is centered around four priority areas of work.



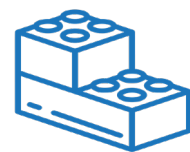
Support to analysis and action in the field



Advocacy, partnerships and convening



Knowledge co-generation and management



Capacity building

Global Workstreams

Across its four priorities, the CSM has made progress through evidence-based and partnership-driven work. While much of this effort is focused on facilitating concrete results, the CSM as reference point for climate, peace and security in the United Nations system also plays a catalytic role encouraging other entities to address the linkages between climate change, peace and security.

II. Support to analysis & action in the field

Since its inception, the CSM has expanded its partnerships and projects to provide in-depth technical advice and support in regions and countries most affected by the linkages between climate change, peace and security. Partners include United Nations field missions, United Nations Resident Coordinators, field offices of individual United Nations entities, and regional and sub-regional organizations.

“The exacerbation of the climate situation with droughts is also exacerbating global tensions because of a scarcity of natural resources.”

Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission

Remarks at the UN Security Council High-level Open Debate on Security in the Context of Terrorism and Climate Change, 9 December 2021



SUPPORT TO ANALYSIS & ACTION IN THE FIELD



The CSM supports analysis and action by leveraging available resources and – where feasible – providing additional capacity at the field level. In most cases, CSM support means providing technical advice to integrated assessments of climate-related security risks or the development of forward-looking risk management strategies. All field initiatives are rooted in gender-sensitive analysis and participatory approaches, which are necessary preconditions for sustainable solutions.

To date, the CSM jointly with partners has developed 12 focus field initiatives in the Americas, the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. The primary focus of CSM work during 2021 has been to provide targeted support where the biggest impact could be made, including through the development of new initiatives in South Sudan, the Lake Chad Basin and the Philippines. Moving forward, generating concrete results that translate analytical findings into effective risk mitigation and management strategies and strengthen the resilience of States and communities will remain a key priority.

The roll out of these national and regional initiatives has been driven by the characteristics on the ground, including evidence of climate-related security risks, capacity needs and the ability of the CSM to make a meaningful contribution. The CSM's expanding work with partners around the world, above and beyond HQ-level advocacy and other workstreams, has been made possible thanks to increased engagement and support from donor partners. The modalities of CSM involvement in field initiatives vary between locations, but generally fall into one of three categories: provision of sustained additional capacity to partners in affected countries or regions; remote technical support, including outside the framework of current focus field initiatives; and hybrid support through short-term consultancies, surge capacity and/or field visits. Through the provision of additional capacity to a select number of United Nations field presences and other partners, the CSM is building a small network of climate, peace and security experts to fast-track this work on the ground.

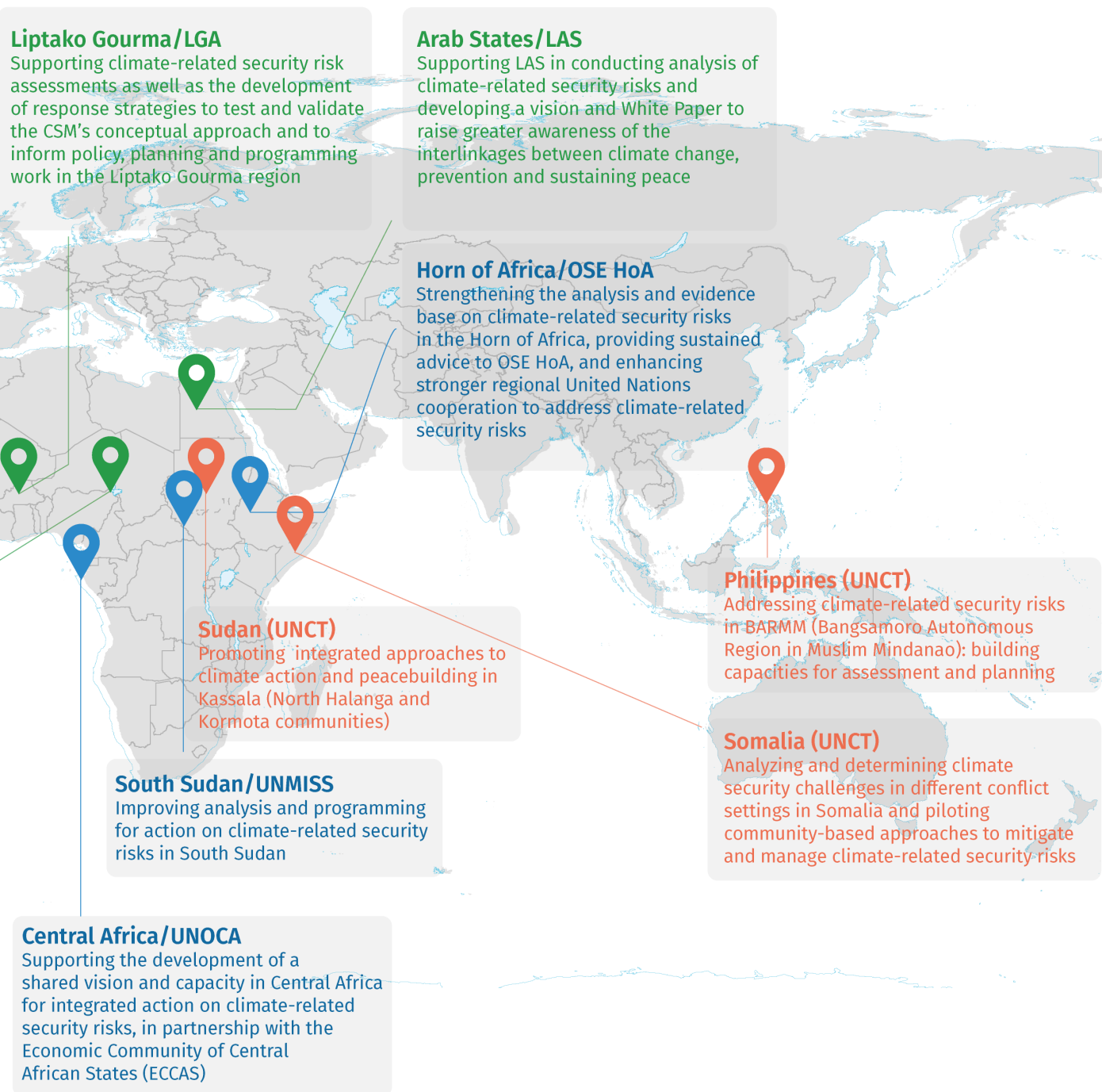
CSM activities include in-depth gender-sensitive assessments of climate-related security risks at regional or country level, policy and operational advice, and support for the design of peacebuilding projects. The CSM also fosters the systematic integration of climate, peace and security considerations across the board among United Nations field missions, country teams and other partners, including in United Nations System-wide analytical and planning processes such as Common Country Analyses (CCAs), Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (SDCFs) and Integrated Strategic Frameworks (ISFs). Through its interagency setup and Community of Practice, the CSM ensures regular exchanges to facilitate integrated approaches and to strengthen the policy-practice loop.



FOCUS FIELD INITIATIVES



- United Nations Special Political Missions and Peacekeeping Operations
- Initiatives working with United Nations Country Teams, Resident Coordinator Offices and other development partners
- Regional and sub-regional organizations



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“ The UN’s Climate Security Mechanism (...) takes an integrated approach to analyze and support timely and appropriate responses to conflict risk focusing on risk assessments and early warning systems to aid conflict prevention, climate-informed peace and security activities and conflict-sensitive development, and promoting inter-sectoral cooperation, partnership and information sharing.”


IPCC AR6 report

Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, February 2022

Across focus field initiatives, the CSM pursues the common objective of supporting integrated climate-related security risk assessments and the development of forward-looking risk management strategies. While collaboration with partners builds on the Climate Security Toolbox and the conceptual approach developed by the CSM in 2020, each situation demands a tailored approach and advice on policy and solution design. This allows the testing of different models in addressing climate-related security risks and thereby helps to grow the body of good practice. For the CSM, this is part of a broader effort to play a catalytic role in support of new, innovative ways to manage climate-related security risks.

The evaluation of the CSM’s work during the period 2020-2022 will assess the effectiveness and early impact of focus field initiatives, highlighting results, similarities and differences across initiatives. Identifying promising approaches and cross-cutting synergies will allow the CSM to better articulate its added value, enhance its focus and scale up impact through the next phase of its work.

The following highlights from three focus field initiatives illustrate the variety of models tested by the CSM and partners. From strengthening capacity for integrated regional action in Central Africa to a highly analytical approach in Guatemala (Northern Central America) to piloting community-based risk management in Sudan, they provide an overview of tailored, complementary and focused support to analysis and action in the face of context-specific climate, peace and security challenges.

	UNOCA	Guatemala (Northern Central America)	Sudan
Partner(s)	UNOCA, ECCAS	Resident Coordinator Offices, adelphi, Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)	Building Resilient Development Organization (BRDO)
Start date	November 2020	October 2020	November 2020
Context / challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region with high climate vulnerability and variability • Congo Basin rainforest among the largest landbased carbon sinks in the world • Significant socioeconomic, political and security challenges • Recognition of climate risks by the Security Council, ECCAS and Member States in the region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Nations actions to address climate-related risks and security risks undertaken in relevant sectors but no integration mechanism currently exists • Need for better understanding of climate-related hazards and sustained inter-institutional collaboration to deal with cascading climate and security impacts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic poverty, socioeconomic and political marginalization, weak local governance and poor basic services • Firewood collection for charcoal production a key source of deforestation, which is exacerbated by climate change • Presence of gangs, crime and violence, along with sympathy toward violent extremist groups • Deteriorated relationships between ethnic groups due to political tensions, further strained by an increase in the frequency of extreme weather events, both droughts and floods
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create regional vision for climate, peace and security • Strengthen data and knowledge base for preventive action • Build regional capacity for climate, peace and security risk management • Link climate action to peacemaking, peacebuilding, peacekeeping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop data management and analysis across the humanitarian, development and peace dimensions of climate security, identifying opportunities for an analysis of global trends, drivers and game changers that could contribute to a long-term vision, and connect to the existing institutional frameworks and policy processes • Apply a climate security lens to human mobility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build capacity of the government and conflict-affected communities for data driven policy on addressing climate-related security risks • Pilot community-based approaches to mitigate and manage climate-related security risks in Kassala (North Halanga and Kormota communities)
Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthened awareness and collaboration across the United Nations system, ECCAS and other partners, and advanced shared regional narrative around key climate, peace and security risks • Established platform for regional dialogues and exchanges on climate, peace and security • Finalized first climate, peace and security risk assessment of the Central African sub-region • Supporting alignment of United Nations system for regional action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First version of a sub-regional climate, peace and security monitoring and indicator framework produced, based on a data audit • Study on the policy and institutional framework in Guatemala conducted, recommending convening relevant institutions, academics, NGOs, and the private sector, to discuss the management of future risks linked to the cascading climate impacts • CSM-IOM study on the urban dimensions of human mobility, climate peace and security finalized for consultations, providing a basis for follow-up activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate-related security risk assessment conducted in conflict-affected communities in Kassala • Awareness raising sessions provided by the Ministry of Agriculture on climate impacts, environmental and natural resources management, and radicalization prevention to communities • Over 300 people, including at-risk youth and women, trained in livelihoods, small fruit culture and solar stove construction and in establishing cooperatives to strengthen social cohesion; a community security committee being established.

III. Global workstreams

In addition to supporting focus field initiatives, the CSM maintains a range of thematic workstreams that connect the different activities and provide an enabling environment for more climate, peace and security work to emerge across the UN system and beyond. The CSM is active in the areas of knowledge management, capacity building and advocacy that together help strengthen the policy-practice loop and catalyze more engagement with partners.

“Adverse effects of climate change act as a risk multiplier in particular contexts, as well as undermines the resilience of communities to the impacts of climate-induced disasters. Accordingly, recognizing the multidimensional relationship between climate and peace is crucial to developing effective and sustainable responses to the challenges posed to peacebuilding.”

Margo Deije, Permanent Representative of Nauru to the United Nations

Remarks on behalf of the Group of Friends on Climate and Security at the Ambassadorial-level meeting on the impact of climate change on peacebuilding in the Pacific Islands held by the Peacebuilding Commission, 31 May 2022



ADVOCACY, PARTNERSHIPS & CONVENING



Sustained advocacy remains vital to keep the linkages between climate change, peace and security high on the agenda of relevant policy fora and ensure their integration into decision-making at all levels. The CSM supports efforts in this regard by organizing and participating in workshops, seminars and conferences, and preparing speeches, background notes, and analytical papers for senior United Nations officials.

Through sustained engagement and collaboration across the United Nations system as well as with regional organizations, research institutions, civil society organizations and other partners, the CSM is helping to build a global community able to connect the latest science to policy and practice. The Community of Practice (CoP) on Climate Security, established by the CSM in 2019, now comprises over 400 United Nations staff from 30+ entities. This informal platform brings together the United Nations system around a shared interest in understanding and addressing climate-related security risks and to exchange knowledge, share experiences, and identify opportunities for cooperation. Since May 2021, five CoP meetings have been convened (out of a total of 11 since 2020). To strengthen the CoP and enhance interagency collaboration, the CSM piloted new ways of engaging over the past year:

- The CSM created the Climate Security Board, a new online space that allows practitioners and researchers to access, contribute and share climate, peace and security-related events, news, publications, and key knowledge products. Providing this central hub for information has been well received by practitioners and online traffic is steadily increasing.
- The CSM launched a Climate, Peace and Security Newsletter to share information and updates regarding the linkages between climate change, peace and security from around the world. It is intended as a monthly feature curated by the CSM and shared with the CoP and beyond.

In 2021 and the early parts of 2022, the CSM and its member entities consistently and actively participated in a variety of UN and non-UN fora to help make the case for the systematic consideration of the linkages between climate change, peace and security at all levels of policymaking. This includes meetings at regional level (such as the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the Regional Conference on Climate Change, Peace and Security in West Africa and the Sahel, or the ASEAN-UN dialogue on climate-related security risks), global conferences (such as the Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development, the Berlin Climate and Security Conference, or the Challenges Annual Forum) and United Nations policy fora (such as COP26 and the Commission on the Status of Women). In addition, the CSM continued working with Member States and regularly briefed and exchanged with the Group of Friends on Climate and Security. The CSM's efforts to drive this agenda forward were also acknowledged in the Working Group II contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report of the IPCC.

CSW66 side event on inclusive, gender responsive and climate informed conflict prevention and peacebuilding

On 25 March 2022, DPPA and the CSM organized an online side event to the 66th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW66). The event “Inclusive, gender responsive and climate informed conflict prevention and peacebuilding” was co-sponsored by the Permanent Missions of Denmark and Kenya to the United Nations and focused on lessons and opportunities related to the confluence of gender, climate change, and peace and security in the Horn of Africa. Speakers from the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), DPPA/DPO, International Alert, and the Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa, highlighted the importance of including gender and climate considerations in mission mandates and of dedicated capacity to operationalize them, as well as the need to prioritize and invest in inclusive solutions that are informed by local experiences and environmental knowledge. In the wake of the event, DPPA published a blog post on “Promoting Peace by Addressing the Linkages Between Gender, Climate Change and Security” (March 2022).

KNOWLEDGE CO-GENERATION & MANAGEMENT



A strong evidence base regarding the global linkages between climate change, peace, and security is an important building block toward effective risk management. More needs to be done to strengthen our shared understanding of climate-related security risks. The CSM supports efforts in this regard by co-generating new knowledge, filling research/policy/practice gaps, and contributing to the effective management of existing data and analysis in a clearing house function.

Over the past year, the CSM has expanded its work on knowledge management and co-creation, consistently emphasizing the importance of co-generating knowledge with partners. In addition to a report on making climate finance work for conflict-affected and fragile contexts published in December 2021 (see text box below), a guidance note on good practices in addressing the nexus of climate change and gender in the United Nations' political, peace and security work and a practice note on implications of climate change for mediation are being finalized.

In the Horn of Africa, the CSM is jointly producing a series of thematic pieces on aspects of climate, peace and security in the sub-region with partners including IOM, UN-Habitat, UNEP-DHI and IGAD. To disseminate lessons learned from experience in climate-informed peacebuilding, the CSM has also partnered with the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), FAO and UNICEF with support from the UK to commission a Thematic Review on Climate Security and Peacebuilding. This independent exercise, led by the United Nations University Centre for Policy Research (UNU-CPR), will examine global trends and approaches to sustaining peace through climate, peace and security efforts and take stock of recent projects supported by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) in this emerging field. The Review will seek to understand good practices and areas for programming improvement, assess results, derive lessons learned, and guide future investments in climate, peace and security. The Review will be informed by primary research in the Liptako Gourma region, Yemen, and the Pacific islands of Kiribati, Marshall Islands and Tuvalu, and is expected to be concluded and published in spring 2023.

“The lack of climate finance is a major barrier to meaningfully addressing climate change and building climate security.”

European Union

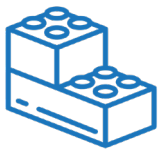
European Parliament Resolution of 7 June 2022 on the European External Action Services' Climate Change and Defense Roadmap

Climate finance for sustaining peace

In December 2016 UNDP and the CSM published a study on “Climate Finance for Sustaining Peace: Making Climate Finance Work for Conflict-Affected and Fragile Contexts”. The report examines the contributions of climate finance to sustaining peace and focuses on: trends in access to climate finance in conflict-affected and fragile contexts; gaps and opportunities to leverage the co-benefits of climate action for peace and security; strategies for mainstreaming climate-related security risks into climate finance; and recommendations to make climate finance work more effectively in contexts affected by conflict and fragility. A metadata analysis of 955 projects (US\$ 14.4 billion) implemented in 146 countries, including 56 fragile states, shows that conflict and fragility may affect access to and implementation of climate finance and its implementation may interact with drivers of fragility and insecurity. Qualifying co-benefits or peace dividends may help incentivize much-needed investments, but theories of change also need to be reconstructed.

UNDP and the CSM convened an online COP26 side event for the soft launch of the report, and a three-part blog series on climate finance and sustaining peace was published by UNDP: “On peace, security and climate finance at COP26” (November 2021); “How can climate finance work better for fragile and conflict-affected regions?” (with SPARC/ODI, February 2022); “Climate finance and the peace dividend: A co-benefits argument” (with the Green Growth Knowledge Platform, March 2022). This study also informed the 9 March 2022 United Nations Security Council Arria-formula meeting on Climate Finance for Sustaining Peace and Security chaired by the United Arab Emirates, which will host COP28 in 2023.

CAPACITY BUILDING



The CSM has developed an ambitious capacity building programme that combines initiatives targeted specifically at building skills in the area of climate, peace and security. With efforts at mainstreaming climate, peace and security into broader, already existing training offerings, the CSM has organized and co-organized training sessions for practitioners across the United Nations system.

Given the increasing demand, capacity building has become a fast-growing area of work for the CSM over the past year. Through virtual and in-person events, the CSM has so far organized or co-organized over 15 dedicated training sessions for more than 800 practitioners from across and beyond the United Nations system. Building on the Climate Security Toolbox, trainings have focused on integrated climate-related security risk analysis and on translating analytical findings into programming and planning, including by using a gender and social inclusion lens. DPPA, DPO and the CSM are currently developing a dedicated climate, peace and security training curriculum for United Nations special political missions and peacekeeping operations, and working with UNU to co-lead a pilot graduate course on climate, peace and security at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs starting fall 2022. Over the past year, CSM-supported capacity building efforts have included:

- The Asia-Pacific “Climate Security Series” virtual dialogues, convened by the Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention and the CSM in July 2021. Through this four-session learning programme, more than 50 practitioners, including Peace and Development Advisors, acquired increased awareness and capacity in understanding climate-related security risks, the climate, peace and security and gender nexus, and implications for programming.
- The new open, self-paced online course on Climate Change, Peace and Security jointly developed by the One United Nations Climate Learning Partnership (UN CC:Learn), UN Women, UNEP, adelphi and the CSM. A special focus examines the ways in which gender norms and other factors of social identity shape how people from different backgrounds experience and respond to climate-related security risks. Early results show higher than average rate of completion with 3,786 people enrolled as of 30 May 2022, of whom 2,121 had completed at least one module.
- A scenario game on the exploration of climate-related security risks (see text box below).
- Four CSM briefings at the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC) course on Climate Sensitive Programming for Sustaining Peace.

Scenario game on the participatory exploration of climate-related security risks & Foresight work

The CSM developed a table-top scenario exercise designed as an immersive game to analyze and explore climate-related security risks through integrated scenarios. Together with the United Nations Development Coordination Office (UNDCO), the CSM piloted two online iterations (September 2021, February 2022). Each pilot workshop convened about 30 participants from a variety of United Nations entities with different geographic and thematic focuses across the climate, development, humanitarian and peace and security spectrum. Experts from Member State partners, civil society and academia also joined. This exercise demonstrated to practitioners how to test basic underlying assumptions, better understand and anticipate risk, and explore the policy implications of plausible alternative futures. They will thus be better equipped to assess climate-related security risk scenarios and responses in their respective contexts. For these pilots, the scenario exercise was applied to “Myland”, a hypothetical country inspired by real cases and reinvented as a climate and security hotspot. Feedback from the pilots will help refine the scenario exercise as a training tool to be replicated in various geographical contexts.

Work on future implications of climate change on security is already under way at field level drawing on available climate projections, notably in Somalia where the CSM piloted workshops with communities, government and international actors to anticipate effects of climate change on coastal communities and propose programmatic solutions. Besides strengthening the knowledge base on the topic, this allowed for increased common understanding between different stakeholders.

IV. Lessons learned & Future directions

Since the CSM's creation in 2018, the field of climate, peace and security has evolved significantly. Growing political attention and increasing demand for action have firmly established the topic on the international policy agenda. This has altered the strategic landscape and created new opportunities as well as expectations for the CSM. The work of the United Nations and the CSM has evolved in line with these trends, expanding in scope and responding to demands from the countries and regions most affected by climate-related security risks. While this is still a relatively new policy area, growing experience has already generated some valuable lessons.

“ While climate mitigation remains the most effective way to reduce climate impacts, more investment is also needed to ensure vulnerable states can effectively adapt to the impacts of climate change which are already occurring. Building resilience, disaster risk reduction, and adaptive capacity allows countries to better cope with climate-related events before they become security challenges.”

Pacific Islands Forum

Pacific Islands Forum Statement for the High-Level Open Debate of the UN Security Council on Climate and Security, 24 July 2020





Integrating environment, climate, peace and security analysis and risk assessment: The CSM has developed and tested methods for connecting transboundary environmental data and analysis with context specific and gender-disaggregated economic, social, peace and security data and analysis through an iterative process. This has substantially enhanced understanding and monitoring of environment and climate-related security risks across the UN system and contributed to the establishment of shared understanding around concepts and terms.



Partnership development: Building genuine partnerships requires sustained commitment and upfront investment. Starting with limited ambition (geographic scope, number of partners, etc.) and scaling up initiatives once they are established successfully can be beneficial. Consultations with regional, national and local partners while conducting climate-related security risk analysis should tap into existing processes and jointly identify potential entry points for action to avoid creating new siloes.



Inclusive decision-making: Resilience is not the result of a top-down approach, it flows from decisions at multiple levels. Political and programmatic strategies should ensure the inclusion and meaningful participation and empowerment of all relevant actors, including women, and vulnerable groups including minorities, refugees and displaced people, to reflect their experience and leverage diverse knowledge. Participatory approaches require sufficient time and trust-building.



Capacity is essential: Dedicated capacity that enhances understanding of the linkages between climate change, environmental degradation, peace and security is critical to raise awareness and drive analysis and trigger action. Such capacity helps deliver on political mandates, including through technical advice and data, while also facilitating greater system-wide collaboration. Dedicated climate, peace and security advisors can help bridge technical and political dimensions of climate, peace and security and help translate scientific information into actionable policy recommendations. To further boost capacity within the United Nations and beyond, more investment is needed in institutional partnerships with research entities, with a special focus on the Global South, rosters of experts, and training.



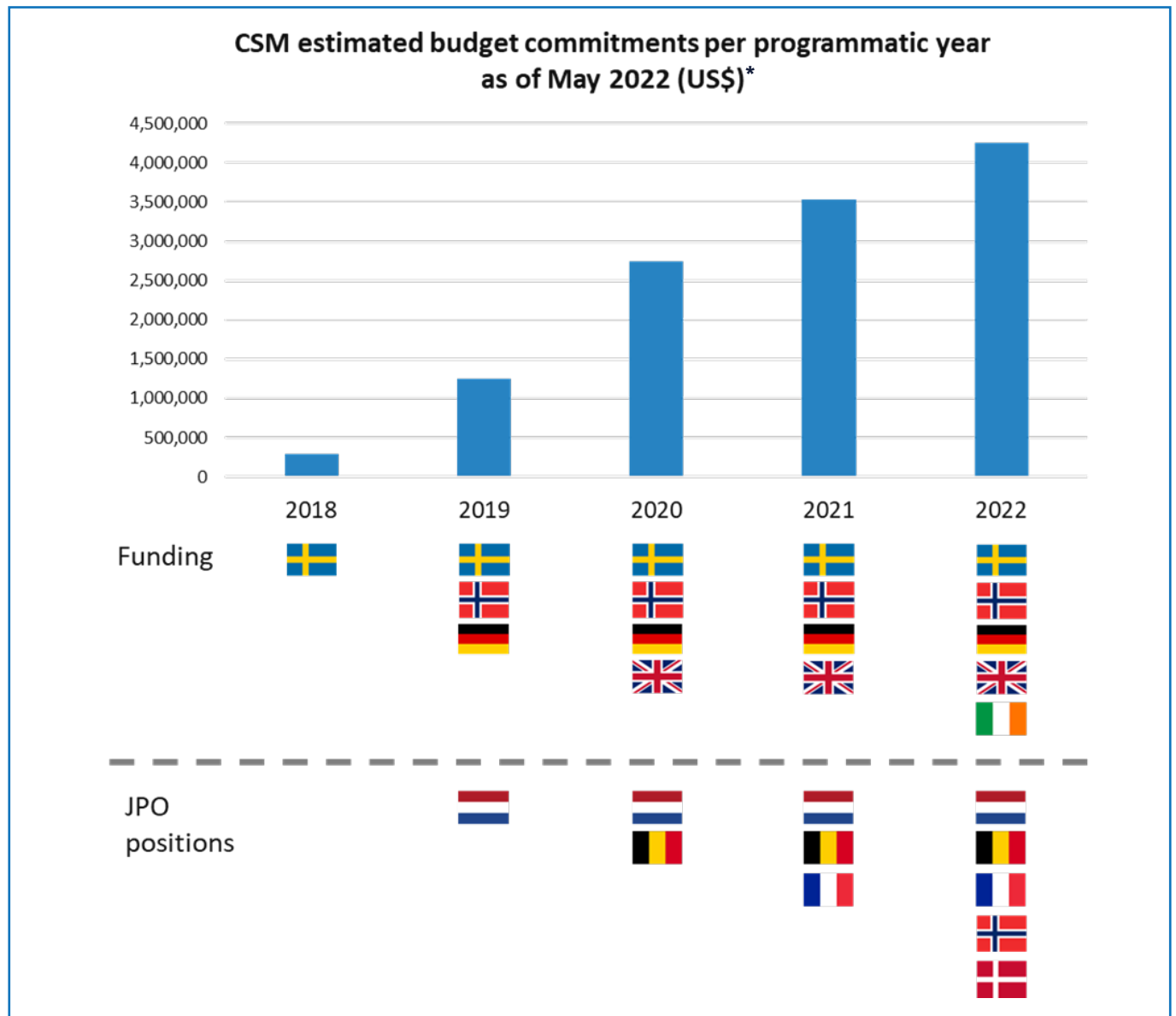
Building an enabling environment: Sustainable solutions to climate, peace and security challenges require progress at multiple levels, from a high level of awareness among key actors to a shared understanding of the context and commitment, to taking appropriate and science-based climate action. The CSM leads efforts in specific locations, and - through advocacy and convening - also seeks to establish an enabling environment for work on climate, peace and security that catalyzes interest in multi-stakeholder collaboration more broadly.

Looking ahead, the CSM will build on these lessons and focus the CSM's ambition where its value proposition is strongest. To this end, during 2022, the CSM will invest in stocktaking and forward-planning. The CSM has commissioned an independent evaluation of its work during the period 2020-2022, which will allow the CSM to reflect on its progress to date, assess results, identify early achievements, challenges and bottlenecks, and learn from good practices as well as less successful activities. Findings and recommendations will inform the next phase of the CSM. Other processes that will help shape the future direction of the CSM include the thematic evaluation on climate-related security risks in United Nations field missions led by the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) and the PBF thematic review on climate security and peacebuilding.

New goals will raise the ambition and build on the success of the CSM to date. Increased integration and complementarity brought about by the alliance between DPPA, UNDP, UNEP and DPO, as well as the CSM's many partners across and beyond the United Nations system, will enable the CSM to better harness strengths and capacities to address the interlinkages between climate change, peace and security, and leverage opportunities for synergies between peacebuilding and climate action. The CSM will continue to support efforts to mainstream the consideration of climate-related security risks into the work of the United Nations development, climate, peace and security actors and to promote integrated approaches to policy, planning and programming.

V. Financial snapshot

As of May 2022, a total of US\$ 12.5 million has been mobilized by the Climate Security Mechanism since the inception of the first phase of its work in 2018 (calculated using United Nations operational rates of exchange on the dates the respective transfers were made). The graph below shows estimated budget commitments by programmatic year up to 2022, highlighting both funding and in-kind contributions from Member State partners.



*Budget commitments represented on the graph reflect funds mobilized as of May 2022 and therefore do not reflect the entire year 2022.

Thank you

The CSM would like to express its gratitude to the Government of Sweden, as founding partner of the CSM, and to the Governments of Germany, Norway, the United Kingdom, and Ireland for their generous contributions and consistent support. The CSM would also like to thank the Governments of the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Norway, and Denmark for their in-kind support through Junior Professional Officers. Without the strong support from partners, including at political and technical levels, the work of the CSM would not be possible.

The CSM would like to thank its many other partners in different United Nations entities, regional and sub-regional organizations, the research community, and civil society for their strong collaboration. These partnerships have helped foster innovative thinking, a shared language, a more robust evidence base and, critically, entry points for working together. They will remain vital in advancing this agenda globally and in more effectively addressing the linkages between climate change, peace and security.



UNITED NATIONS

CLIMATE SECURITY MECHANISM



For more information on the work of the Climate Security Mechanism please visit:

Climate Security Trello board: <https://trello.com/b/gC7Sz1TW/climate-security-board>

MPTFO Partners Gateway: <https://mptf.undp.org/fund/jxe00>

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CLIMATE SECURITY MECHANISM
