

While not traditionally a key consideration for Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), understanding climate risks is now essential to the Department's work in conflict prevention, peacemaking, and peacebuilding. The climate emergency is a crisis amplifier and multiplier. Where climate change dries up rivers, reduces harvests, destroys critical infrastructure, and displaces communities, it exacerbates the risks of instability and conflict, in particular in contexts where conflict and fragility have weakened coping capacities. It is no coincidence that 70 per cent of the most climate vulnerable countries are also affected by conflict. Women and girls often carry an outsized burden as socio-economic norms and expectations limit their coping capacities and exclude them from decision-making processes. DPPA's work in this area is led by a dedicated team within the Policy and Mediation Division. 2023 represents a crossroads on climate, peace and security. Strategic opportunities exist to strengthen

the evidence base and undertake climate-informed prevention, peacebuilding, peacekeeping, and stabilization efforts.

The MYA, along with the Peacebuilding Fund, is critical to supporting DPPA's continued strategic and operational capacity to support UN entities, Member States and regional and sub-regional organizations, including through the deployment of Climate, Peace and Security Advisors.



Increased demand for climate proofing in DPPA's work:



- **11** contexts in which the Security Council has recognized the destabilizing effects of climate change, including 5 where special political missions are deployed¹
- **8 out of 15** most climate exposed countries in the world host a UN special political mission or peacekeeping operation
- **The majority** of field-based special political missions are deployed in climate-stressed regions or countries



What we do

In 2018, DPPA, UNDP and UNEP jointly launched the [Climate Security Mechanism \(CSM\)](#), which now also includes DPO. Drawing on the different strengths of its members, the CSM seeks to build UN capacity and strengthen intersectoral collaboration. This includes providing technical support to UN field entities on risk analysis and the integration of climate considerations into peacemaking and peacebuilding strategies, deploying and building capacity, and synthesizing good practices.



Four special political missions now have dedicated **Climate, Peace and Security Advisors**², with plans to deploy more. The Advisors enable missions to better analyze and address the impacts of climate change on mandate delivery and lead the integration of climate risks into peacemaking and peacebuilding strategies. Partnerships across and beyond the UN system are critical to their success, in particular with regional and sub-regional stakeholders, such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) or the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

In addition, DPPA is also working with **Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams** and building the capacity of Peace and Development Advisors to address climate-related security risks in a holistic manner.

DPPA is leveraging its convening power and technical expertise to ensure policy reflects lessons from around the world. In 2022, DPPA released two practice notes on [climate and gender](#), and [climate and mediation](#).

¹ The Security Council has recognized the destabilizing effects of climate change in the context of Central Africa, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, and West Africa and the Sahel. In addition, it has noted the destabilizing effects of drought in Afghanistan and previously mentioned extreme weather events as a threat to the stability of Haiti.

² Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) and the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA).



2022 Highlights



In **West Africa and the Sahel**, the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) completed five country-specific climate-related security risk assessments. Led by the newly deployed Climate, Peace and Security Advisor, the mission is currently compiling findings into a regional report to synthesize takeaways and entry points for collaboration between UNOWAS, ECOWAS and UN Country Teams.



In **Central Africa**, the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) conducted the first in-depth assessment of climate-related security risks in the sub-region and developed recommendations for coordinated action. Findings have informed regional discussions - led by the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) - and will feed into the development of a conflict-sensitive climate change strategy for Central Africa.



In **Iraq and Sudan**, our missions - United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) - undertook risk assessments, which yielded recommendations for concrete action, including by integrating a climate lens into political strategies, providing advice to governments, and coordinating UN efforts to address the gendered impacts of climate change on the security of vulnerable communities. A dedicated Climate, Peace and Security Advisor is slated to deploy to UNAMI in early 2023.



In **Asia and the Pacific**, in April 2022, DPPA briefed at the first United Nations-Association of Southeast Asian Nations dialogue on climate, peace and security, which highlighted opportunities for peace positive climate action in the region. This has paved the way for further collaboration in 2023, including a regional climate, peace and security risk assessment in Southeast Asia.



At **COP27**, DPPA for the first time sent a delegation to a UN climate conference to organize and participate in side events, including to demonstrate a virtual reality experience on climate, peace and security in the **Pacific Islands**.



How we track results

■ Senior Leadership Compacts

■ Mid-Year and Annual MYA reports

■ 2023-2026 Results Framework

■ Reporting through the CSM

Global



We fund political work across the world

Flexible



70% of our funding is unearmarked

Fast



We can allocate funding within 72 hours of a crisis

Innovative and Inclusive



We use innovative approaches to peace and security with emerging technologies

PEACE IS PRICELESS AND POSSIBLE.

[Multi-Year Appeal 2023-2026](#)

For further information on the Multi-Year Appeal, please contact the Donor Relations Team.

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