Global Webinar Series

Environment and Emergencies in the face of COVID-19

Register here: bit.ly/395pVzl

Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic has only been the latest, very powerful wake-up call on the links between environment and emergencies. Disasters, crises and the environment are intrinsically interconnected. Therefore, a key element of emergency response is the rapid identification and mitigation of environmental risks. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) have been partners for the past 25 years, supporting countries in strengthening their capacities to respond to the environmental dimensions of disasters and complex emergencies.

Join us for a series of webinars on readiness for and response to the environmental dimensions of emergencies, with a special focus on managing these challenges in the face of COVID-19.

Programme

1. Environment and emergencies: What you need to know in a pandemic context
   - 29 July

2. Environmental coordination in emergencies: localisation and lockdown challenges
   - 19 Aug

3. Crisis waste management: COVID-19 and beyond
   - 23 Sep

4. Preparing for and responding to chemical risks: re-starting industry
   - 14 Oct

5. Enhancing the sustainability of humanitarian action
   - 25 Nov

6. What have we learnt from past emergencies and future outlook?
   - 16 Dec
Global Webinar Series: Environment and Emergencies in the face of COVID-19

25 November
14:00 - 15:30 CET

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Moderator: Gregory Rulifson
Opening remarks: Victoria Saiz-Omenaca
Managing WFP’s environmental footprint – Stories from the field: Emanuela Cattaneo
Climate crisis versus data revolution: A battle of the giants: Hussein Sulieman

Gregory Rulifson
Sustainability Advisor in the Supply Chain Management Division of BHA (USAID)

Gregory is currently Sustainability Advisor in the Supply Chain Management Division of the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance at USAID where he facilitates the mainstreaming of improved environmental performance. He holds a PhD in Civil Engineering and Certificate in Engineering with Developing Communities from the University of Colorado-Boulder.

Victoria Saiz-Omenaca
Head of Office, OCHA Indonesia

Victoria is currently Head of the OCHA Indonesia Office where she oversees OCHA’s engagement with the Government of Indonesia on disaster management and broader humanitarian issues and supports the work of humanitarian agencies resident in Indonesia. Victoria also manages OCHA’s relationship with the ASEAN, and oversees the policy, capacity building and strategic engagement with ASEAN Member States. She holds a master's degree in Sociology.

Mihir Bhatt
Director, All India Disaster Mitigation Institute

Mihir is Director at the All India Disaster Mitigation Institute. He is a Senior Fellow of the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative and advises the Climate Development Knowledge Network on climate-compatible development in India, with a focus on urban resilience, green finance, and renewable energy. Mihir holds a master’s degree in city planning for developing areas from the USA and a master’s degree in urban and regional planning from India.

Emanuela Cattaneo
Regional Environmental Adviser, WFP Regional Bureau for East and Central Africa

Emanuela is Regional Environmental Adviser at the World Food Programme (WFP), based in Nairobi, where she coordinates and manages environmental projects to reduce WFP’s footprint on the environment. She holds a joint Master of Science in Sustainable Development from the Netherlands and Germany.

Hussein Sulieman
UNEP National Consultant and Professor, University of Ghadarif, Sudan

Hussein is Professor and Director of the Centre for Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems at the University of Garadif, Sudan. He is also a visiting fellow at Tufts University, USA. His main research interests are in the domains of geo-spatial analysis of environmental changes. He holds a PhD in environmental remote sensing from Germany.