

Climate and Environment Advisor

General description

All humanitarian actors have a shared responsibility to view their operations through a climate and environment lens. Within the context of humanitarian action, climate and environment factors (such as scarce natural resources or changing weather patterns) are often a root cause and driver of conflicts. The environment has direct impact on vulnerability of affected communities and the quality of humanitarian action. Humanitarian actors need to take climate and the environment into consideration to build back better and safer, ensure carbon footprint and risk is reduced and resilience increased.

The Climate and Environment Advisor (CEA) is responsible for advising programme staff on climate and environment issues relevant to the UN agencies' programming. The CEA will advise on improvements to programming and operations to mitigate climate and environment damage. The CEA develops projects that address underlying environmental issues and safeguard natural resources. Climate and Environment Advisors may focus on one or more specific technical areas or play a coordination role, mainstreaming climate and environment across multiple agencies and operations.

Climate and Environment Advisors will primarily, but not exclusively, be deployed by WFP, UNDP, UNHCR and OCHA.

Examples of duties and responsibilities

- Identify and conduct a general evaluation of the environmental risks to people, livelihoods, climate and natural resources.
- Plan, develop and support activities aimed at minimizing adverse impacts to the climate and the environment.
- Interact with national and local authorities, international agencies, clusters and sectoral working groups.
- Develop and facilitate training and capacity building on climate and environment mainstreaming.
- Provide technical advice on climate and environmental issues.
- Develop communications and report on climate and environmental issues in the context.
- Promote and advocate the use of existing guidelines and guidance materials.
- Support or establish regular collaboration mechanisms on climate and environment information exchange, integration, awareness raising.
- Identify cross-cutting climate and environment concerns and facilitate collaboration on these between stakeholders.
- Review Financial Resources available for country climate and environment needs.

Required qualifications

- Professional technical experience matching the above-mentioned duties and responsibilities.
- A minimum of 3 years international humanitarian, development, climate or environment field experience.
- Relevant educational background, such as climate or environmental science degree or any other degree relevant for humanitarian work. Knowledge of the UN and knowledge and understanding of climate and environment issues.
- Knowledge and understanding of the complexity related to refugee and IDP situations.
- Proficiency in one (preferably two) languages. English is obligatory, while French, Spanish, or Arabic is an advantage.