



JOINT
ENVIRONMENT
UNIT

Together
for a Better
Response

At Environment and Humanitarian Crossroads

The Climate Crisis is a Humanitarian Crisis

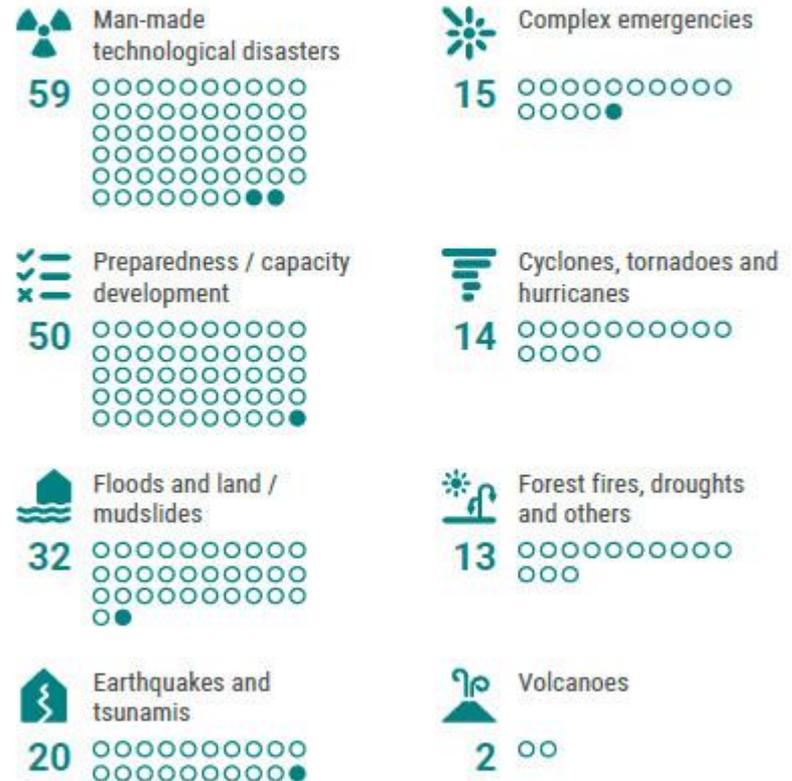
Charlotta Benedek
UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit
International Week 2021 of Savonia UAS





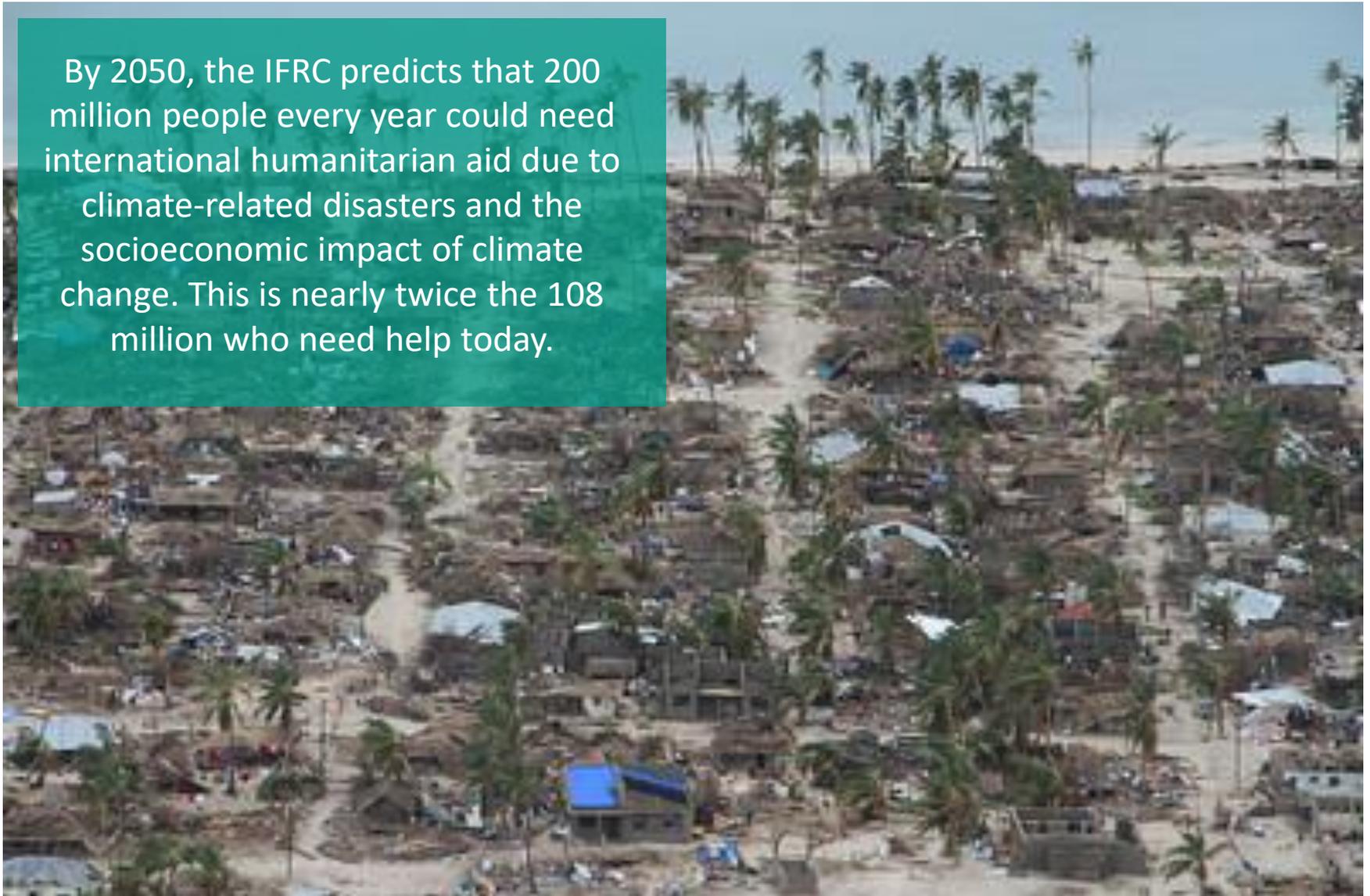
- Founded in 1994 at request of UN Member States
- Mechanism to respond to environmental dimension of emergencies
- Combines UN's humanitarian coordination mandate with its environmental expertise
 - Technological emergencies
 - Sudden-onset disasters
 - Protracted crises
- www.unocha.org/unep

The JEU mobilizes technical environmental expertise in disasters and crises through preparedness and response missions supported by a network of partners.



○ = 1 mission
● = 1 mission in 2018

By 2050, the IFRC predicts that 200 million people every year could need international humanitarian aid due to climate-related disasters and the socioeconomic impact of climate change. This is nearly twice the 108 million who need help today.



In addition to extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and heatwaves that wipe out crops and destroy water sources, climate change threatens agriculture, livestock and exacerbates food insecurity and malnutrition.

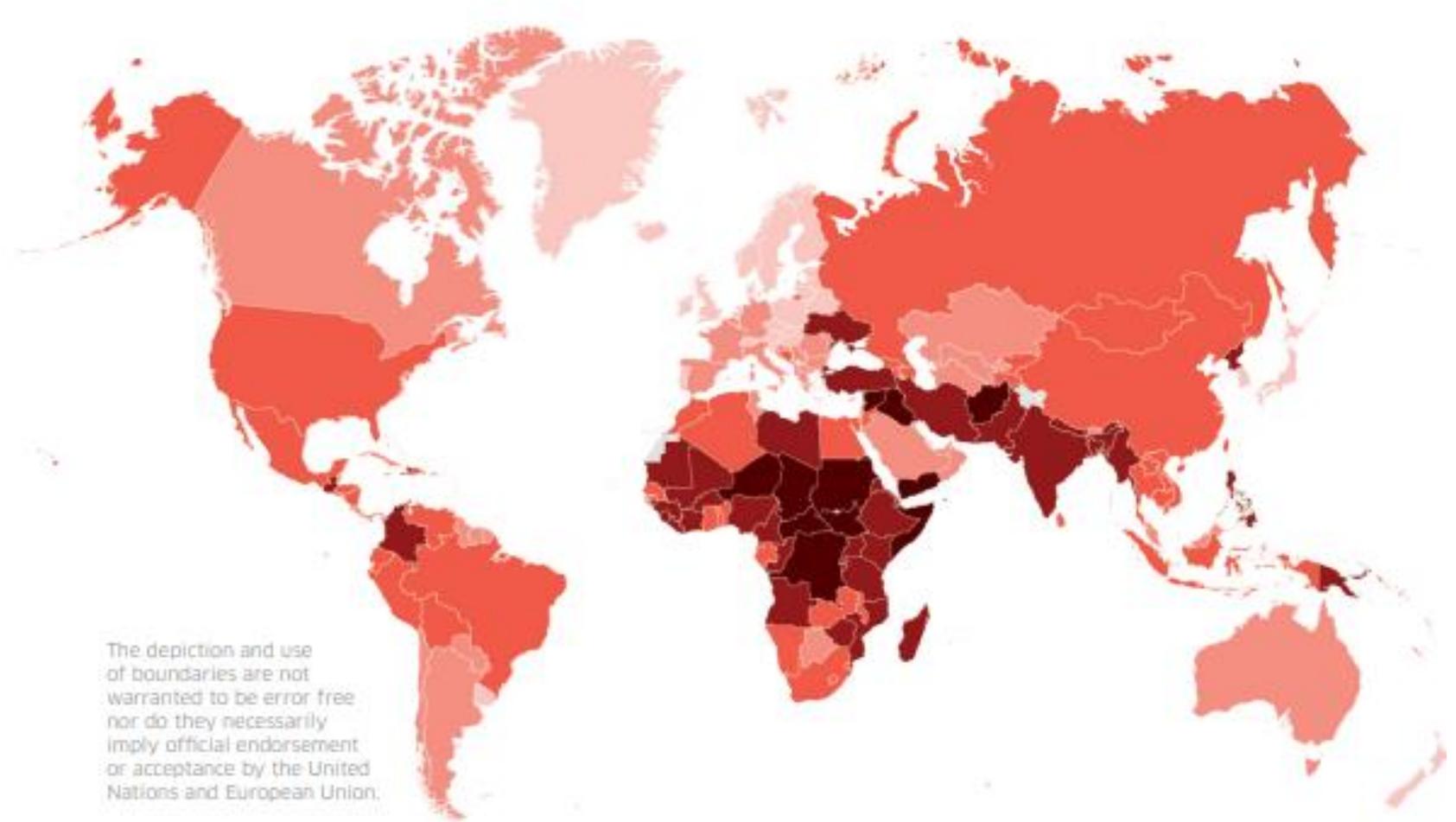


Climate-induced challenges are expected to drive high rates of migration, increasing pressure on coastal areas, cities and host communities, which may experience heightened fragility risks and social tensions.



Climate change represents a major cause for concern given its introduction of multiple security challenges: water scarcity, food insecurity, disruption to agriculture and energy infrastructure, livelihood insecurity, social tensions, conflict and displacement.



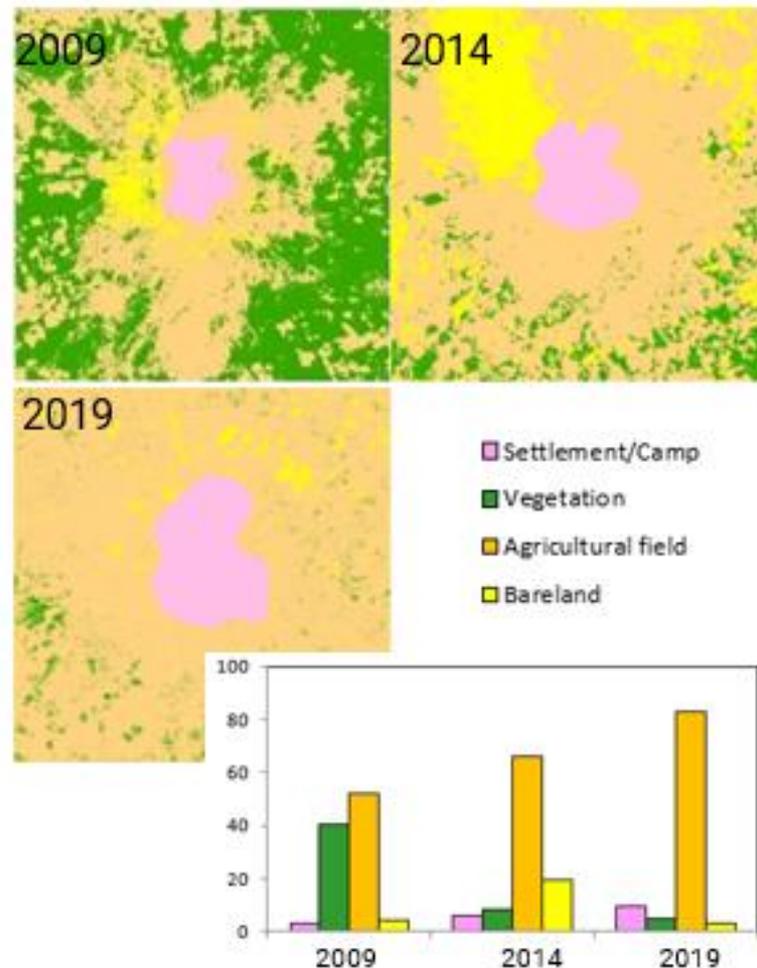
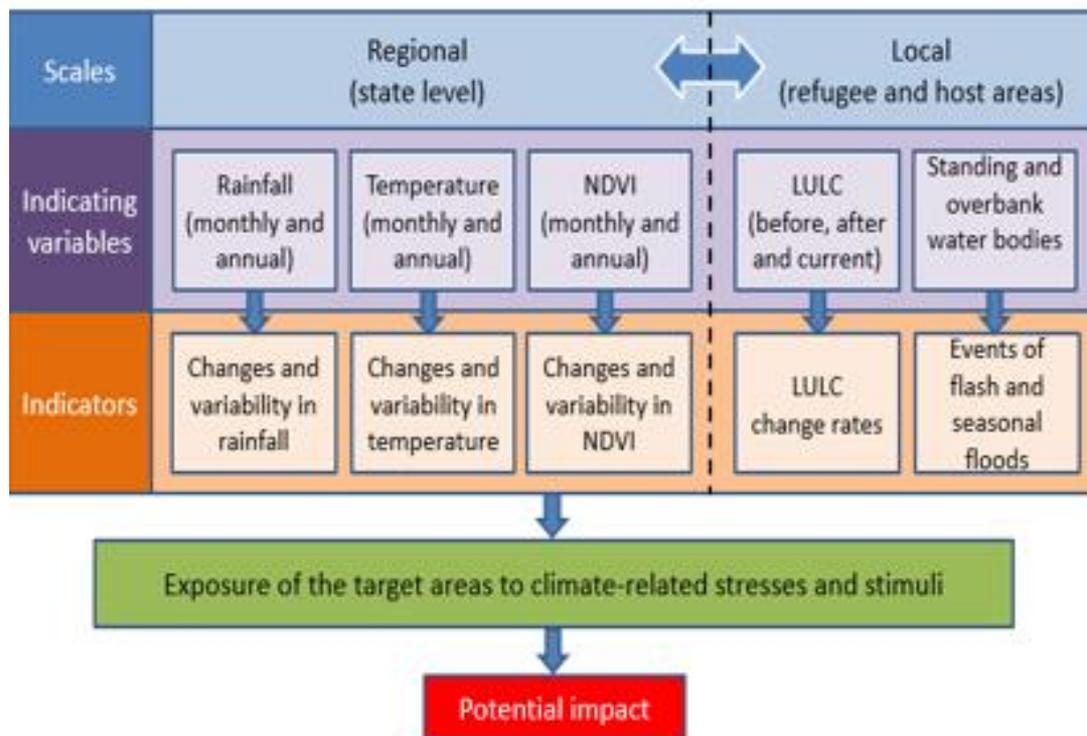




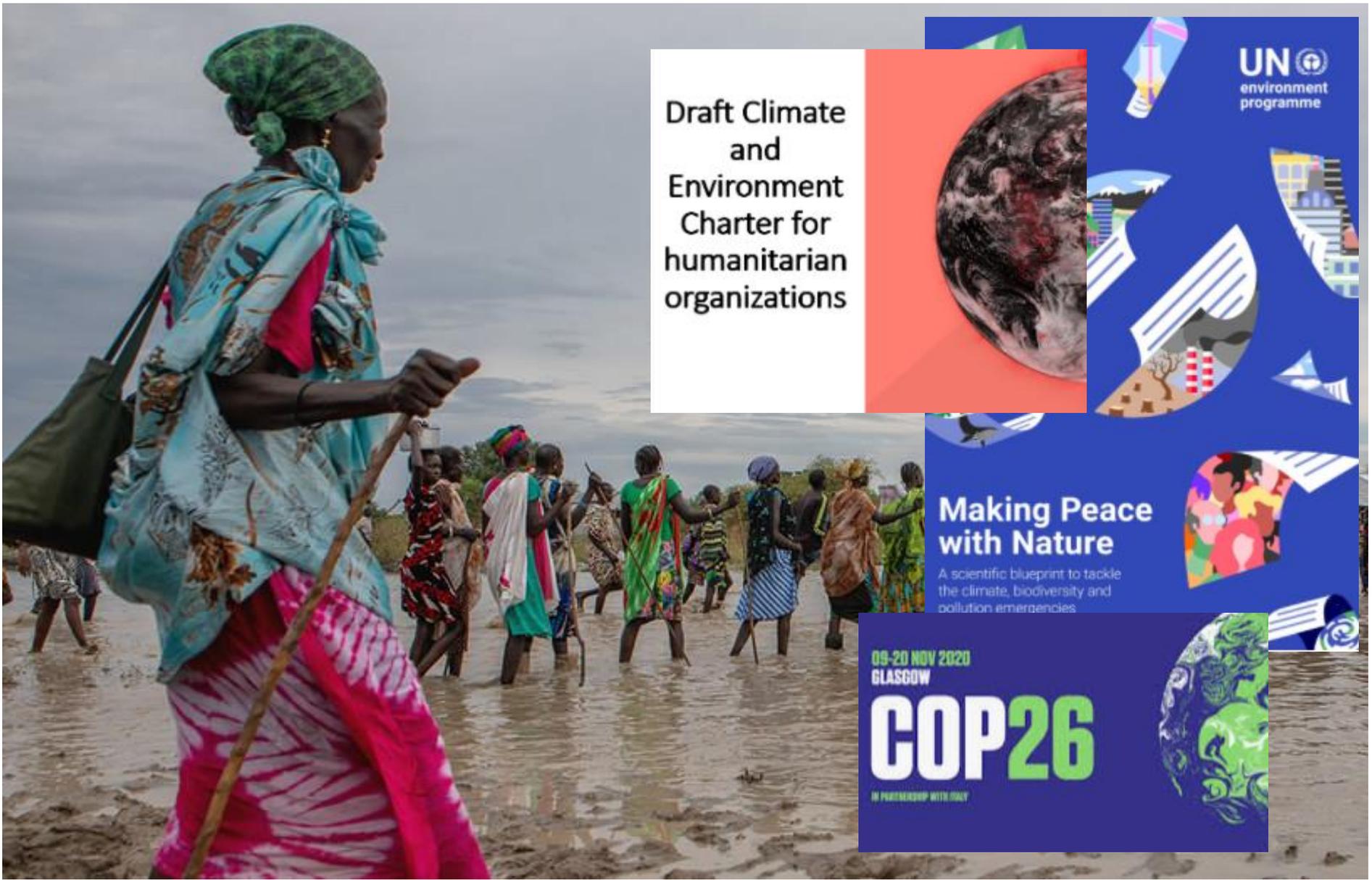
Adaptation to Climate Change in Sub-Saharan African Humanitarian Situations

- **Aim:** To strengthen the capacity for climate adaptation of displaced populations and vulnerable communities in Burundi, Chad and Sudan
- **Focus:** Humanitarian hotspots (vulnerable communities, internally displaced people, refugees and host communities) facing climate-related risks in Burundi, Chad and Sudan
- **Implementing Countries:** Burundi, Chad & Sudan
- **UN Partners:** WFP (lead), UNHCR, UNICEF, UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit & World Wind Energy Association (WWEA)

Climate change analysis in humanitarian hotspots



Land cover change around Abu Karinka camp, East Darfur



Draft Climate
and
Environment
Charter for
humanitarian
organizations



Making Peace
with Nature

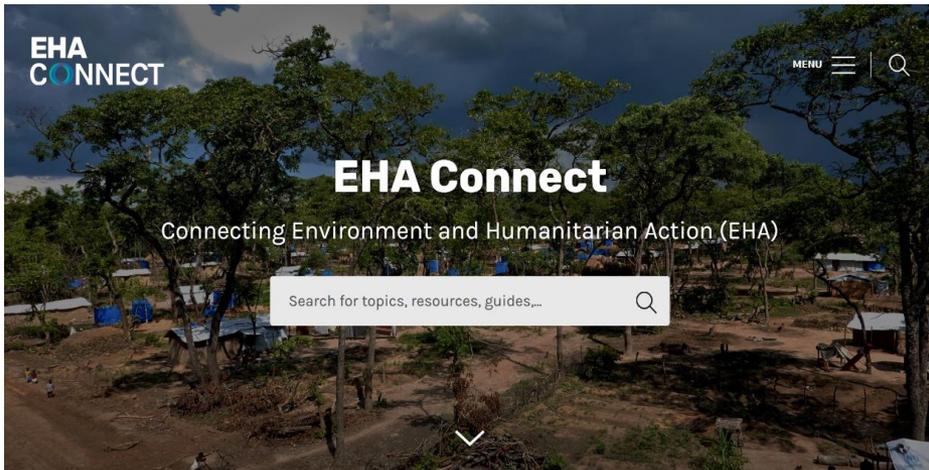
A scientific blueprint to tackle
the climate, biodiversity and
pollution emergencies

09-20 NOV 2020
GLASGOW

COP26

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY





- Repository of tools, guidance and case studies, tailored for humanitarian and environmental communities
- Organized around the Humanitarian Programme Cycle
- Cluster-specific and thematic guidance

<https://ehaconnect.org/>



- A one-stop-shop of information, tools, trainings and guidance to inform a more prepared and effective response to environmental emergencies

<http://www.eecentre.org>

We need to get the story about environmental risks and opportunities in humanitarian action straight. After all, if we're not even starting at the right place, we certainly will not end up at the right destination.

Thank you!

Contact the JEU to find out more
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