

Global Webinar Series

Environment and Emergencies in the face of COVID-19

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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



Environment and emergencies:
What you need to know
in a pandemic context

1 29 July

Crisis waste management:
COVID-19 and beyond

3 23 Sep

Enhancing the sustainability
of humanitarian action

5 25 Nov

14:00
15:30
UTC+2

2 19 Aug

Environmental coordination
in emergencies: localisation
and lockdown challenges

4 14 Oct

Preparing for and
responding to chemical risks:
re-starting industry

6 16 Dec

What have we learnt
from past emergencies
and future outlook?

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19 August
14:00 - 15:30 UTC+2

Environmental coordination in emergencies: localisation and lockdown challenges

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Agenda

- Moderator: Juan Bello
- Opening remarks: Manoj Kumar Bindal
- Environmental coordination in emergencies
Dan Stothart
- Coordination, decentralization and localisation: insights from the Americas
Juan Pablo O'Farrill Duque
- Beirut explosion: sneak peek into the Emergency Operations Cell
Margherita Fanchiotti



COVID-19
RESPONSE

Moderator



Juan Bello

Head, UNEP Office in Colombia

Juan is the Head of UNEP Office in Colombia and the regional focal point for Ecuador and Peru, where he coordinate capacity building initiatives in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, and serves as a delegate from Colombia to SBSTTA of the Convention on Biological Diversity. He has an academic background in biology with postgraduate studies in international negotiation and policy.

Opening Remarks



Manoj Kumar Bindal

Executive Director, National Institute of Disaster Management, India

Manoj is the Executive Director of India's National Institute of Disaster Management. He has been the Director, Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK) New Delhi and he was also the Secretary of the International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centres. He holds a master's degree in Defence and Strategic Studies as well as Masters of Philosophy in Defence and Management Studies.

Speakers



Dan Stothart

Regional Coordinator for Disasters and Conflicts, UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean

Dan is UNEP Regional Humanitarian Affairs Officer for Latin America and the Caribbean, where he coordinates the disasters and conflicts sub-programme, focussing on response to emergencies and mainstreaming environment into humanitarian action and addressing the relationship between environment and security. He holds a master's degree in Disaster Management from the UK.



Juan Pablo O'Farrill Duque

National Disaster Response Adviser, OCHA Mexico

Juan Pablo is a National Disaster Response Advisor for OCHA in Mexico, where he supports the UN Resident Coordinator and UNCT in country with disaster readiness and response, strengthening cooperation between national and international humanitarian actors. He holds a master's degree in Political Science from France and is currently finishing a PhD in Integral Disaster Risk Management from Mexico.



Margherita Fanchiotti

Focal Point for Response, UNEP/OCHA Joint Environment Unit

Margherita is the Focal Point for Response at the UNEP/OCHA Joint Environment Unit, where she coordinates the mobilization of international environmental assistance in response to emergencies and leads the UNEP/OCHA joint training portfolio. She holds a PhD in Geography and Environmental Science from the UK.