

## Statement of Commitment on Climate by Humanitarian Organisations

Bangladesh during floods



Climate change and the resulting environmental effects are having a profound impact on the world's people, affecting in particular the most vulnerable and poorest. Without drastic changes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, limit rises in global temperatures and restore biodiversity, climate change emergencies will likely have a major impact on future humanitarian needs. The actions of humanitarian organisations, as vital as they may be, can add to this crisis as the agencies themselves generate environmental and climate impacts.

It is therefore essential that agencies adapt their ways of working to ensure coherence of action, exemplarity and respect the principle of 'do no harm'. Agencies must also adapt to respond to these crises, support resilience building in vulnerable populations and work to preserve and conserve the environment. The solidarity organisations, made up of ACTED, The Alliance for International Medical Action, CARE France, Electriciens Sans Frontieres, Groupe URD, Medecins du Monde, Premiere Urgence Internationale, Secours Islamique France and Solidarites International, have committed to make such changes.

In line with the commitments made by countries at the Conference of the Parties (COP) 21 (also known as the Paris Agreement), reflecting

on the anticipated focus of the COP 26 (taking place in 2021) and conscious of each agency's humanitarian responsibilities, the solidarity organisations have committed to:

1. Measure the environmental and carbon impacts of agencies.
2. Reduce the carbon footprint of agencies, aiming to halve emissions by 2030.
3. Incorporate climatic and environmental risk analysis in all areas of work and promote prevention, mitigation and adaptation actions where relevant.
4. Make a positive impact on the environment by reducing the negative impacts of humanitarian and development actions.
5. Develop and identify local expertise in connection with the Grand Bargain's commitments on localisation.
6. Make information on progress towards these commitments public on an annual basis.
7. Raise awareness across all agency collaborators.
8. Contribute to the project to develop an environmental and climate charter for the entire sector (currently being launched by the ICRC and the Red Cross).

More information can be found at <https://alima.ngo/en/blog/2020/12/15/statement-of-commitment-on-climate-by-humanitarian-organisations/>

## UNICEF Nutrition Strategy 2020-2030

Report Summary<sup>1</sup>



In December 2020, UNICEF published its new Nutrition Strategy, to guide the next ten years of its nutrition related activities. The strategy outlines UNICEF's vision of 'a world where all children, adolescents and women realize their right to nutrition' and highlights strategic objectives to support governments and partners in ending child malnutrition in all its forms. Centered around six results areas, the strategy emphasises a universal premise, that prevention comes first, in all contexts, and if prevention fails, treatment is a necessity. The result areas are:

1. *Early childhood nutrition:* focuses on programming to prevent of all forms of malnutrition in the first five years of life.
2. *Nutrition in middle childhood and adolescence:* encompasses programming to prevent of malnutrition in middle childhood (5-9 years of age) and adolescence (10-19 years of age).
3. *Maternal nutrition:* concentrates on prevention of malnutrition programming in women during pregnancy and breastfeeding as well as the prevention of low birthweight in newborns.
4. *Nutrition and care for children with wasting:*

encompasses programming for the early detection and treatment of children with wasting through facility- and community-based approaches, in all contexts.

5. *Maternal and child nutrition in humanitarian action:* which includes UNICEF's nutrition programming in emergencies, guided by UNICEF's Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action and its commitments as Cluster Lead Agency for Nutrition.
6. *Partnerships and governance for nutrition:* which includes programming to strengthen the enabling environment for nutrition through improved partnerships, data, knowledge, advocacy and financing.

Programme priorities are outlined for each result area. Furthermore, the Strategy recognizes that in order to improve nutrition outcomes, a systems approach is needed and there is a central role to be played by five systems: food social protection, education, water & sanitation and health to deliver diets, services and practices to support adequate nutrition. Priorities for each system are outlined.

The Strategy reflects a number of strategic shifts from previous strategies. Firstly, there is a focus on all forms of malnutrition, including overweight and obesity and a focus on bringing together the prevention of both forms of undernutrition (stunting and wasting). The UNICEF Conceptual Framework has also been adapted to reflect the broader malnutrition focus. Secondly, while maternal and child nutrition in the first 1,000 days of life remains core to UNICEF programming, a broader focus on nutrition in middle childhood and adolescence is taken to break the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition. There is also a deliberate emphasis on the centrality of nutritious, safe, affordable and sustainable diets and the importance of the food system. More broadly, the strategy focusses on a multisectoral approach to nutrition improvements as well as a greater focus on the role of the private sector to advocate for optimal nutrition practices. Critically, while the strategy has a universal vision and agenda, it calls for approaches to be contextualized- the strategy stresses that UNICEF country programmes are not expected to implement all components but develop context-specific programmes, informed by analysis of the unique determinants, drivers, potential impact pathways and available resources in each context.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/media/92031/file/UNICEF%20Nutrition%20Strategy%202020-2030.pdf>