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Guidance, standards, and protocols in the humanitarian sector on reducing harm to the environment

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Question

What are the existing guidance, standards, and protocols in the humanitarian sector around reducing harm to the environment (including carbon emission reduction, reducing pollution, reversing climate change)? This guidance might be internal to organisations, or produced to guide large organisations on best practice.

Contents

1. Summary

The UK Government is taking a keen interest into the way that the UK can reduce its carbon emissions (Carson, 2018): this includes legislative acts (Kyoto Protocol, EU Emissions Trading Scheme) as well as national policies (Climate Change Act, The Carbon Management Plan).

This rapid review highlights the tools used by different organisations during humanitarian responses in order to reduce harm to the environment as much as possible. As well as a review of UK policy, four areas of the humanitarian sector were explored for this rapid review:

a. Donor governments, who may have national legislation or policies on protecting the environment (e.g. carbon emission reduction, reducing pollution, and addressing climate change);
b. International standards, or specific normative frameworks;
c. Individual organisations' policies on environmental harm reduction, and
d. Private sector environmental protocols.

However, there is a dearth of literature critiquing these policies and evaluating their efficacy; practical guidelines for responsible material selection and use for government agencies, NGOs and the private sector are also rare (WWF, 2017). In terms of geographical coverage, the focus is on policies made by the industrialised world (producers of climate change) and their impact on the industrialising world (consumers). Therefore, this rapid review includes data from Europe (Danida, the European Parliament, Irish Aid, and Sida), Australia (DFAT), and USA (USAID). As requested by DFID, evidence (primarily national and international policies) is considered from (approximately) the last twenty years. Information available on best practice methods show that:

- Some agencies use separate tools to screen interventions for their vulnerability to climate change or their potential impact on climate vulnerability on a wider scale (e.g. EU Civil Protection Mechanism); some require that climate issues be integrated into screening and assessing environmental and social risk (e.g. Equator Principles). For DFID programmes, guidance includes the *Environment Guide* for humanitarian assistance (DFID, 2003), whilst *Smart Rules* provide the operating framework (DFID, 2019).

- International Standards by different organisations provide guidance on resource sustainability (e.g. IOM), as well as purchasing (e.g. UNHCR), and the overall impact of climate change (e.g. IASC) in humanitarian responses. Other Standards, such as UNOCHA's Guiding Principles are now being used to guide climate action plans and policies in a number of South Asian countries (Connell and Coelho, 2018). Disability features in standards from the Sendai Framework (2015) and Sphere Handbook (2018); gender features in UNFCCC guidelines and the 2015 Paris Agreement.

- Globally, efforts for institutionalising disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) have been mostly independent, as evidenced in the evolution of institutional structures, legislations, and policies for DRR and CCA (Mall et al., 2019). Gender is featured in Oxfam (Gell, 2010) guidance on DRR and CCA; more recently, ageing and disability is included in the NewAge International guidelines on humanitarian responses (Small, 2018).

- The private sector has an important role to play in responding to climate change, in terms of investment/costs (LMI Government Consulting, 2005) and technological innovation (Ellis et al., 2009; HELIO International, 2013). Voluntary standards for industry, which take into account social and environmental context of resource exploitation, are also recommended in humanitarian responses (EPA, 2013).

2. Humanitarian responses and environmental considerations

In his document *Mainstreaming environment into humanitarian interventions*, Kelly (2013: iii) indicates that "[n]ot all environmental damage is irreversible, and some, under the humanitarian imperative, may be necessary and acceptable." However, he is in agreement with the hypothesis that mainstreaming environmental considerations in humanitarian interventions not only increases the long-term sustainability of projects and programmes but can also achieve other benefits (Kelly, 2013: 1). These include cost savings, disaster risk reduction (DRR), gender equity, food security, and energy efficiency, among others.

This rapid review highlights the tools used by different organisations during humanitarian responses in order to reduce harm to the environment as much as possible.

3. Donor governments: guidance

The following is a list of donor agencies who may have national legislation or policies translating into funding guidelines (for international organisations and non-governmental organisations [NGOs]) in preventing environmental harm. Some agencies have separate tools to screen interventions for their vulnerability to climate change or their potential impact on climate vulnerability on a wider scale; some require that climate issues be integrated into screening and assessing environmental and social risk. Others only focus on a project's contribution to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (Horberry, 2014: 13); however, since then, evidence shows that some government agencies have expanded their climate change considerations, as explained below:

UK Aid: DFID

DFID: Environment Guide (2003)

The DFID Environment Guide provides checklists of opportunities and constraints for conflicts and humanitarian assistance (DFID, 2003: 49-51). For example, the environmental aspects of food distribution, site selection, and service provision aim to conform to The Sphere Handbook: Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response. This latest version of the Handbook of accepted recommendations has strengthened its environmental considerations for humanitarian responses (Commitments 3 and 9).

DFID: HERR (2011)

The Humanitarian Emergency Response Review (HERR), published under the 2010 to 2015 Conservative and Liberal Democrat coalition government, makes a series of high level policy recommendations for humanitarian and developmental work (DFID, 2011). DFID's Economic Development Strategy stated that the Government will continue to work with partners such as the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) - the global standard to promote the open and accountable management of oil, gas and mineral resources. However, the Strategy was reported in the independent review of DFID's humanitarian aid (HERR) to pay "little more than 'lip service' to climate change" (House of Commons, 2019: 3).

DFID: Carbon Management Plan (2013)

DFID began working with the Carbon Trust in 2008, moving from small scale reductions in emissions to setting its own Carbon Management Plan (CMP) (DFID, 2013) for how it would significantly reduce its carbon emissions. This is driven by the Climate Change Act 2008 (Carson, 2018). The Act stands in association with the Committee on Climate Change (CCC). The CCC provides independent advice to the UK Government on a reasonable target to set. The CCC must also report on the progress made with regards to the production of carbon. The CMP also has a Facilities Management (FM) contract, which includes environmental clauses for managing the reduction of carbon emissions from energy usage (DFID, 2013: 16).

Air travel is responsible for almost 50% of DFID's carbon emissions.[1] In 2012/13 DFID introduced a travel tracker system to enable better monitoring and management of air miles flown. To ensure that targets were met, DFID established a Sustainable Operations Board, consisting of environmental advisers, senior staff and DFID's IT team. In recognition of their efforts, DFID has previously been awarded the Carbon Trust Standard, a certification awarded to those organisations displaying best practice and real achievements in measuring, managing and reducing carbon emissions.

DFID: Smart Rules – Better Programme Delivery (2019)

This Smart Rules document (Version XI: effective 1 April 2019 until 1 October 2019) provides technical guidance, principle rules, and development standards to guide the design and delivery of adaptive Business Plans and programmes. This is in order to "avoid doing harm" during interventions. It covers cross-cutting areas such as environmental impact assessments (EIAs); climate change; resource scarcity and environmental vulnerability; gender equality; social and poverty impact, and human rights (DFID, 2019: 6, 17).

European Union (EU)

As with many other regions of the world, the EU is vulnerable to nearly all types of natural disasters. The following list is a summary of strategies[2] and guidelines:

EU Climate Adaptation Strategy

In April 2013, the European Commission adopted an EU Strategy on Adaptation, which aims to ensure member states are prepared for current and future climate impacts. One of its objectives is to further develop the European Climate Adaptation Platform (Climate-ADAPT) as the "one-stop shop" for adaptation information in Europe.

Union Civil Protection Mechanism Decision

All EU member States, as well as the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Norway, participate in the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. They pool resources that can be deployed when a disaster strikes. The assistance includes in-kind aid, sending experts and

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[1] https://www.carbontrust.com/our-clients/d/department-for-international-development/
[2] https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/international/paris_protocol/resilience_en

intervention teams and specific equipment to disaster stricken countries and deploying experts for assessment and coordination of European response. Any country in the world can call on the EU Civil Protection Mechanism for help. The Mechanism also activates during marine pollution emergencies, where it works closely with the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). The European Commission supports and complements the prevention and preparedness efforts of participating states in the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. This includes developing guidelines on risk assessment and hazard mapping, encouraging research to promote disaster resilience, and strengthening early warning tools.

Emergency Response Coordination Centre

The Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC), operating within the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO), was set up to support a coordinated and quicker response to disasters both inside and outside Europe, using resources from 31 countries participating in the Union Civil Protection Mechanism. The centre improves coordination between civil protection and humanitarian aid operations. It maintains a direct link to civil protection and humanitarian aid authorities in EU member states enabling real-time exchange of information. It ensures deployment of coordination and assessment teams composed of humanitarian aid and civil protection experts to conduct joint needs assessments. The ERCC replaces and upgrades the functions of the previous Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC).

EuropeAid: Guidelines on the Integration of Environment and Climate Change in Development Cooperation (Guideline no.6, 2016)

These guidelines, Integrating The Environment And Climate Change Into EU International Cooperation and Development, provide a framework for strengthening the contribution of EU-international cooperation and development policy to sustainable development by integrating, or mainstreaming environmental and climate change considerations into the different phases of the EU programme and project cycle. This latest version includes a review of Project Environmental Screening procedures (Annex 3) and an annex on Climate Risk Assessment (Annex 9).

Denmark: Danida

The Strategy for Denmark's Environmental Assistance to Developing Countries (2004- 2008) was the most central policy document from Danida in relation to environment and energy. In September 2013, the Strategic Framework for Natural Resources, Energy and Climate Change (NEC Strategy) was published. This gave an important signal of renewed Danish commitment to work in the energy sector, emphasising the links between energy and climate change (Danida, 2016: 36). The objective of the NEC Strategy, together with the 2011-2015 Strategic Framework for Growth and Employment (GE Strategy), is to jointly set the priorities and define the instruments for Denmark's development cooperation for green growth (Danida, 2013: 4).

The NEC Strategy is complemented by the Strategy for Danish Humanitarian Action 2010–2015, adopted in 2009, to guide humanitarian responses following natural disasters caused by climate change, conflicts, and environmental degradation (Danida, 2013: 4). One challenge with the current Strategy found in the 2014 ITAD evaluation is that it does not include indicators or a results framework for monitoring implementation and measuring the achievement of objectives.

This makes it difficult to assess Danida's implementation of the Strategy in detail (Mowjee et al., 2015).

The Danish Government presented its new Strategy for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance in 2017. For the first time, Denmark has combined its humanitarian strategy and its development cooperation strategy into one joint strategy. Danida will contribute to realising the global ambition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the world's development towards 2030. Together, the Climate Change Agreement from Paris and the SDGs shape the course for increased investments in resource-effective and sustainable energy and water solutions where Denmark has strong competencies (Danida, 2017: 27).

Ireland: Irish Aid

Irish aid has "actively" participated in the on-going United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiation process.[3] The Environment Policy for Sustainable Development lays down Irish Aid's objectives in environmental sustainability, and puts forward a number of strategies. Irish Aid works with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to meet Ireland's environmental commitments working on issues such as climate change, biodiversity, and the reduction of GHG emissions.

At the national level, Ireland's domestic and international policies have a direct impact on the environmental sustainability of development cooperation. Policies on trade, agriculture, fisheries, climate change etc. have a direct impact on developing country partners; Irish Aid works with other government departments to minimise contradictions and enhance synergies. An Inter-Departmental Committee on Development (IDCD) was set up in 2007 to strengthen coherence in the Government's approach to development. The IDCD provides opportunities to ensure coherence in the area of the environment, as do regular meetings with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (Irish Aid, 2008: 27). A list of Guiding Principles is also included in the policy (Irish Aid, 2008: 24-28).

Sweden: Sida

Sida's guideline Sustainable Development? Guidelines for the Review of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) provides a checklist for humanitarian assistance (Sida, 2002: 93-96). It takes into account whether land, water and air, or chemicals and waste management are included in its EIAs. The Sida Guidelines for a Simplified Environmental Assessment (2017a) provide direction on supporting partner organisations' integration of environment and climate change in their contributions.

Environmental sustainability is clearly reflected – directly and indirectly – in the SDGs. These Goals, together with the Swedish legal environmental requirements and the Swedish Government's instructions to Sida, including the Policy Framework for Development Cooperation, provide the foundation for Sida's environmental work (Sida, 2017a). Commitments for Sida's Environment Policy include (Sida, 2017b):

- strengthened focus on climate change adaptation, as well as climate change mitigation;

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[3] https://www.irishaid.ie/what-we-do/our-priority-areas/environment-and-climate-change/leadership-and-governance/

- promotion of reduced air, land, and water pollution;
- sustainable use of natural resources such as forests, land, water and marine resources; and
- promotion of a circular economy, through economic instruments, incentives and technical solutions that in a transformative manner contribute to a resilient, climate neutral, and resource efficient development.

All staff at Sida have an important role in implementing this Environmental Policy. However, Sida's management – through the Director General and the Senior Management – has the overall responsibility for ensuring that the environment/climate perspective is taken into account throughout Sida's work (Sida, 2017b).

Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

The Environmental and Social Safeguard Policy came into effect on 1 January 2018, and applies to all DFAT Official Development Assistance funded aid investments, regardless of value or funding mechanism. The Environmental and Social Safeguard Operational Procedures and guidance notes help staff to manage the safeguarding requirements at each step of the aid management cycle described in the 2018 Aid Programming Guide.

USA: the US Agency for International Development (USAID)

As a federal government agency, USAID is subject to applicable US environmental laws, regulations, Executive Orders, and procedures that ensure the wise use of the taxpayer's money. The following is a list of environmental compliance regulations and procedures:

Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216 (22 CFR 216)

These are USAID's EIA procedures. They are intended to implement the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 (NEPA) as they affect the USAID programme. 22 CFR 216 Agency Environmental Procedures applies to all USAID programmes, projects, activities and substantive amendments.

Environmental Compliance Procedures, Regulation 216 Booklet

This Booklet provides a handy copy of the EIA procedures used by USAID.

NEPAnet

This is the federal web page for NEPA and its implementation. It includes many links to NEPA related material, including latest (2018) guidance from the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ).

4. International standards and guidance

The UK Government is taking a keen interest into the way that the UK can reduce its carbon emissions: this begins with legislative acts and policies (Carson, 2018). Through Government authority, policies can ensure that reducing carbon emissions is a matter of law and all within the

UK must comply. The following guidance is used by the UK Government for humanitarian processes. There are also a number of international standards, as well as normative frameworks, which have been used by the UK government and other donor governments:

UNFCCC Kyoto Protocol (2005-2020)

The UK is committed to the Kyoto Protocol[4] (effective 2005, extended to 2020) – an international treaty linked to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which commits its parties by setting internationally binding emission reduction targets. In Durban 2015, the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) of the UNFCCC was established to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention, applicable to all Parties. However, according to UN and non-UN aid agencies, it does not sufficiently address the humanitarian impacts of climate change.[5]

EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS, 2018)

The EU ETS is part of the policy to combat climate change. It was the first large GHG emissions trading scheme in the world, and remains the biggest. It enables the cost-effective reduction of GHGs. The scheme provides a set cap on the amount of particular GHGs that can be produced. Organisations can purchase emission allowances within the cap and these allowances can be traded between companies, depending upon the demand. The 2018 EU ETS Phase III Guidance for aircraft operators administered by the UK by the Environment Agency includes guidance for humanitarian flights.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (2015)

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by all United Nations member states in 2015. These Goals establish a new international framework for development cooperation, while tackling climate change and working to preserve oceans and forests.

The Paris Agreement Implementation Guidelines (2018)

The Paris Agreement (2015) sets the goal of limiting global warming to well below 2°C, while pursuing efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C. This involves limiting and reducing GHG emissions. The implementation guidelines developed at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Katowice, Poland (COP24) respect the different capabilities and socio-economic realities of each country with respect to climate action.

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[4] The aim of the Kyoto Protocol was to provide countries upholding the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) the option to execute methods of setting targets to control and measure the production of GHGs within the country. Most member states in the UN agreed to the terms, although the USA, while supporting the notion, have not ratified the protocol, believing that implementing it would lead to a loss in their Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Consequently, the USA is not bound to the protocol and as such not accountable if they do not meet emissions targets.

[5] https://www.unhcr.org/uk/news/press/2009/6/4a2d0fea24/aid-agencies-call-strong-agreement-address-humanitarian-shocks-climate.html

Findings from the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE, 2012) demonstrate that women's involvement in climate change decision-making at national, European, and international levels is still low. UN climate change negotiations, void of gender-related texts and discussions until 2008, have more recently reflected an increased understanding of the links between gender equality and responding to climate change. Parties to the UNFCCC have now recognised the importance of involving women and men equally in UNFCCC processes and in the development and implementation of national climate policies that are gender-responsive. A dedicated agenda item has been established under the UN Convention addressing issues of gender and climate change and by including overarching text in the Paris Agreement.[6] For example, the Lima Work Programme on Gender (LWPG) adopted at the United Nations Climate Change Conference, Peru (COP20) in 2014 promoted gender balance and achieving gender-responsive climate policy.

Montreal Protocol (1987)

The Montreal Protocol (and later amendments) was adopted in 1987 - since then all countries have signed on to the agreement, allowing for the dramatic decline in global ozone-depleting emissions across the world. A multilateral assessment from 2012 by the Australian Government on the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol (MLF) shows that the MLF is "very strong" in achieving and communicating environmental results consistent with its mandate of phasing out ozone-depleting substances. However, it is not in MLF's mandate to coordinate humanitarian efforts.

IASC Task Force on Climate Change (2009)

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Task Force on Climate Change was established in June 2008 and formalised in July 2009. Its overall objective is to promote the integration of climate change adaptation into humanitarian action and to ensure that, where appropriate, agency technical expertise and analysis can support Member State decision making within the UNFCCC process. The agencies in the Task Force are working on advocacy- and awareness-raising of the humanitarian impacts of climate change; supporting dialogue with IASC agencies and fora at regional and national levels to facilitate the provision of guidance; support and training on climate change adaptation, and facilitating information and knowledge sharing on good practices and tools.

International Organization for Migration (IOM, 2017)

In 2017, the inter-governmental organisation IOM launched its institutional programme of work on environmental sustainability. The objective was to mainstream environmental sustainability principles into IOM's policies, operations and programmes, focusing on three key areas: energy, water, and waste management. The long-term goal is to ensure that activities are environmentally sustainable and climate neutral (Grafham and Lahn, 2018: 14). IOM has a variety of policy tools aimed at reducing the environmental impact of the organisation, e.g. Air Travel Policy 2009, and data on reducing GHG emissions. Its 2011 Project Handbook, the

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[6] https://unfccc.int/gender

primary reference material internally for project design, highlights environmental sustainability as a guiding principle. Its Environmental Migration Portal also provides policy briefs; guidance on migration, environment and climate change adaptation, and summarises government discourses on climate change migration.

OCHA: Guiding Principles (1998)

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Guiding Principles are standards that outline the protections available to internally displaced people (IDPs). They detail the rights and guarantees relevant to the protection of IDPs from forced displacement, to their protection and assistance during displacement up to the achievement of durable solutions. The 30 Guiding Principles are structured around the phases of displacement: the framework for humanitarian assistance is addressed in principles 24 to 27.

The international conference on the Ten Years of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement ("GP10") – held in Oslo, 16-17 October 2008 – assessed the accomplishments and shortcomings of the Guiding Principles since their launch in 1998. It was felt that the current legal and normative protection framework needed to be re-examined in the light of the new categories of forced migrants, as a result of climate change-related disasters or long-term environmental degradation.[7]

Case study: Guiding Principles in Asia and the Pacific

As part of the twenty-year anniversary of the Guiding Principles, Forced Migration Review (Connell and Coelho, 2018) highlighted that Fiji is finalising its National Relocation Guidelines to assist communities affected by sudden and slow-onset processes, led by the Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Vanuatu's Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation has prepared a National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement, which includes sections addressing the challenges of implementing planned relocations. In Bangladesh, the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief has produced a National Strategy on the Management of Disaster and Climate-Induced Internal Displacement, while the Ministry of Environment and Forests has supported the development of a model plan of action on the Management of Migration Induced by Climate Change and Environmental Degradation.

UNHCR: Environmental guidelines (1996-2015)

The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) published Environmental Guidelines in 1996 that "lay a basis for incorporating environmental factors into specific UNHCR guidelines". UNHCR began implementing a Green Procurement Policy in 2012, which built upon earlier efforts in the Environmentally Friendlier Procurement Guidelines (1997). This Policy aims to ensure that social and environmental factors are combined with financial considerations when UNHCR is making purchases. In 2015, UNHCR produced the UNHCR, Environment & Climate Change report, which outlined the challenges that climate change presents for its operations and the measures taken in response (Grafham and Lahn, 2018: 15). Its guidelines on environmentally sustainable operations are also included (UNHCR, 2015: 14). The 2009 FRamework for Assessing, Monitoring and Evaluating the Environment in Refugee-Related Operations (FRAME Toolkit) is

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[7] Chair's Summary, prepared by NRC/IDMC, the Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. http://www.internal-displacement.org/gp10

guidance for UNHCR managers and field staff, as well as for key operational partners, to improve project and programme management in its global operations. It is intended to complement existing materials relating to the sound management of natural resources.

Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA, 2005)

At the international level, there are established links between adaptation and DRR in the 10-year international DRR plan: The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 − Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters. The HFA is a 10-year plan to make the world safer from natural hazards. It was endorsed by the UN General Assembly in the Resolution A/RES/60/195 following the 2005 World Disaster Reduction Conference. HFA is the first plan to explain, describe, and detail the work that is required from all different sectors and actors to reduce disaster losses. It outlines five priorities for action, and offers guiding principles and practical means for achieving disaster resilience. However, though providing good guidance to government and civil society for efficient DRR, it does not include disability as a core cross-cutting issue, nor persons with disabilities and their representatives as key stakeholders and resources.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030 (2015)

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 outlines seven clear targets and four priorities for action to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks. SFDRR was adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan, on 18 March 2015. It is the successor instrument to the HFA 2005-2015. The scope of DRR has been broadened significantly to focus on both natural and man-made hazards and related environmental, technological, and biological hazards and risks. A list of Guiding Principles is included (UN, 2015: 13, 36). A review by Stough and Kang (2015) concludes that the SFDRR has firmly established people with disabilities, and their advocacy organisations, as legitimate stakeholders and actors in the design and implementation of international DRR policies.

5. International organisations: guidance

Globally, efforts for institutionalising DRR and CCA have been mostly independent, as evidenced in the evolution of institutional structures, legislations, and policies for DRR and CCA (Mall et al., 2019). The following is a list of individual NGOs with policies and guidance on environmental harm reduction:

HelpAge International: Humanitarian inclusion standards (2018)

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), articles 11 and 32, requires that persons with disabilities benefit from and participate in disaster relief, emergency response and DRR strategies. The Humanitarian inclusion standards for older people and people with disabilities, developed by the NGO HelpAge International Age in their Disability Capacity Programme (ADCAP), aims to help organisations responding to crises to successfully identify and reach those most at risk, upholding the humanitarian principles by which they all must abide (Small, 2018).

Oxfam: toolkit on gender and accountability strategies

CCA and DRR are priorities for Oxfam GB, as are strengthening women's rights and gender equality. This Introduction to Climate Change Adaptation: A Learning Companion (Gell, 2010) toolkit aims to provide Oxfam programme staff with the basis for incorporating gender analysis and women's rights into CCA and DRR programming.

In their latest Accountability Report 2015-2016, a section on environment explains how Oxfam is measuring its own carbon footprint, as well as the strategies it is adopting to reduce the footprint in coming years (Oxfam, 2017: 66). It may also apply to other humanitarian organisations and agencies.

Red Cross/ International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC): policy and roadmap

The British Red Cross is taking steps to reduce its own carbon emissions. This Environmental and carbon reduction policy (June 2018 - June 2021) ensures that it does "all [it] can to mitigate climate change and its impact." The Guidance on implementing the environmental policy (2012, updated 2018) sets out more details on how the aims of the policy are to be met. These include: selecting the most appropriate form of travel; ensuring their buildings are operated so as to optimise use and reduce emissions through control of heat and power; reducing waste, and recycling where possible.

A Sustainable Development Strategy for 2017–2022 has been outlined in order to develop the institutional uptake of sustainable development in the ICRC's operating practices. This includes a roadmap for scaling-up activities to reduce operational impact on the environment and to "climate-proof" IFRC programmes and operations.

The Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Training Kit, relaunched in June 2019, is aimed at helping IFRC staff design training programmes or workshops on climate-risk management. This interactive training has links to existing IFRC products and guides. Information is included on important areas of humanitarian work, including technical aspects of climate risk management, climate-related policy dialogues, and climate finance.

Tearfund: CEDRA tool

The Climate Change and Environmental Degradation Risk and Adaptation Assessment (CEDRA) tool is based on the premise that there is a strong and positive relationship between environmental adaptation, CCA, and DRR. It includes guidance notes and a series of exercises to help the user to complete the CEDRA Steps and Report. The field test version contains a case study showing how Tearfund partners have helped people to adapt to changing weather patterns due to climate change (Wiggins & Wiggins, 2009: 6).

UNEP-TNT: Toolkit for Clean Fleet Strategy Development

This Toolkit for Clean Fleet Strategy Development, from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the global transport company TNT, is a step-by-step action plan for fleet managers to understand the environmental impact of their fleet, and to improve operations (including fuel, driving, emissions, vehicle type and monitoring). Excel worksheets and example

indicators are provided to evaluate the current status of fleet and ways to improve (Tool 18). A toolkit text book is included for download.

World Food Program (WFP): Green Logistics checklist tool and policy

Green Logistics is a tool to help logisticians improve and "green" procurement and logistics by discussing the challenges and the benefits for organisations and benefactors. It includes sections on reverse logistics, supply chain management, environmental management systems, monitoring and performance measurements (i.e. miles per gallon fuel, average life of tires in miles, etc.). It has a useful environmental checklist with 12 initial questions adapted from the commercial sector to help orient a logistician to think about environmental impacts.

WFP recognises that the environmental, social and economic dimensions of the 2030 Agenda's SDGs are interdependent, and must all be consistently reflected in its work (WFP, 2017: 7). In 2017, WFP announced a new Environmental Policy that outlines concrete ways in which the organisation could raise standards, better capture environmental risks, and develop a high-class environmental management system (Grafham and Lahn, 2018: 15).

WWF: BMEG manual

Exponential increases of material extraction, processing and disposal can cause significant environmental and social impacts (such as erosion, deforestation, landslides, and floods; deprive communities of essential livelihood resources; and put people, infrastructure, and ecosystems at greater risk of future disasters). Practical guidelines for responsible material selection and use for government agencies, NGOs and the private sector are rare (WWF, 2017). This manual, Building Material Selection and Use: An Environmental Guide (BMEG), by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Environment and Disaster Management (EDM) programme (2017) aims to fill a gap and provide guidance on better practices for government agencies, NGOs, community-based organisations (CBOs), as well as private sector companies for environmentally responsible selection, sourcing, use and disposal of construction material.

6. Private sector: protocols

The private sector has an important role to play in responding to climate change, undertaking the investment and technological innovation that will underpin low carbon growth, providing finance for mitigation and adaptation, adopting lower carbon production processes, and encouraging and facilitating more climate conscious purchasing decisions by consumers (Ellis et al., 2009). Various reports have looked at the role of the private sector, and how the right incentives can be created to maximise their contribution. For example, Catalysing low-carbon growth in developing economies from UNEP and partners, focuses on the kinds of public finance mechanisms needed to incentivise and scale-up private sector investment for climate solutions; and Charting a New Low-Carbon Route to Development, published by UNDP, discusses options to achieve both climate change mitigation and the investments needed to accelerate poverty reduction and development.

The following is a list of protocols used by industries in humanitarian support, as well as possible recommendations for sectors in post-conflict settings and natural resources management:

HELIO International (2013): Energy tool

This Climate-proofing Energy Systems tool is developed by an international network of energy analysts. It provides simple indicators that can be used to assess the vulnerability of energy systems to climate change impacts, and identify appropriate adaptation measures. It can be used by aid workers to ensure that emergency and temporary power systems are resilient and adaptive. It may also be used for longer-term planning (i.e. selection and placement of energy systems).

LMI Government Consulting (2005): Best Practices in Green Supply Chains

Based in the USA, LMI works with a number of government agencies. This presentation on Best Practices in Green Supply Chains shows where negative environmental impacts occur, methods for improvement, and case studies. There is a strong link with reducing costs. Although designed for the private sector, this presentation also applies to humanitarian actors.

WBCSD: Low-carbon policy recommendations

The private sector can join with global governments to create mutual opportunities to advance to a sustainable economy. The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) study Towards a Low-carbon Economy focuses on business experience in technology development and deployment, finance and carbon markets, and makes policy recommendations (WBCSD, 2009).

Various: Voluntary standards for natural resource industries

The Environmental Peacebuilding Association (EPA) has produced a number of policy briefs focusing on peacebuilding on post-conflict settings and natural resources management. EPA suggests that voluntary standards, which take into account the social and environmental context of resource exploitation, be used. These include:

- The International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards on Social and Environmental Sustainability – effective January 2012, which lists eight standards on providing guidance on how to identify risks and impacts, and are designed to help avoid, mitigate, and manage risks and impacts as a way of doing business in a sustainable way;
- The Equator Principles (EPs) – a risk management framework from June 2013, adopted by financial institutions, for determining, assessing and managing environmental and social risk in projects and is primarily intended to provide a minimum standard for due diligence and monitoring to support responsible risk decision-making;[8]
- The Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights – established in 2000, are a set of principles designed to guide companies in the extractive sector in maintaining the safety and security of their operations within an operating framework that ensures respect for human rights and individual freedoms;[9] and

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[8] Currently 97 Equator Principles Financial Institutions (EPFIs) in 37 countries have officially adopted the EPs.

[9] Members and observers include 10 governments (Argentina, Australia, Canada, Colombia, Ghana, The Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and United States).

- The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights – endorsed in June 2011, these are a set of guidelines for member states and companies to prevent, address, and remedy human rights abuses committed in business operations.

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Key websites

- A list of all European Union legislation (known as the 'acquis communautaire') in the fields of climate action and ozone layer protection, applicable to all member states: https://ec.europa.eu/clima/about-us/climate-law_en
- US Pollution Prevention Law and Policies - Environmental Protection Agency: https://www.epa.gov/p2/pollution-prevention-law-and-policies

- DFAT presentation - Environment Protection Policy for the Aid Programme: https://acfid.asn.au/sites/site.acfid/files/resource_document/DFAT-EPP-presentation.pdf
- OCHA Humanitarian Response Logistics - list: https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/topics/environment/page/logistics
- EPA, 1st International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding, Irvine USA - 23-25 October 2019: https://environmentalpeacebuilding.org/2019-conference/

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