

Climate and Environmental Performance Report 2022



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Introduction

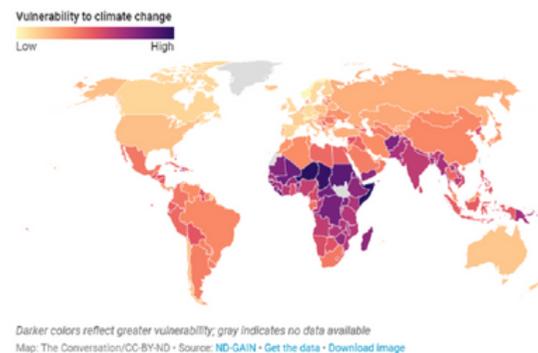
Being a Humanitarian Organization in a Changing Climate and Environment

The climate and environment crises are humanitarian crises, threatening the future of humanity.¹

The most vulnerable and marginalized groups around the world are some of the most impacted by the current and future climate and environment crises. People whose capacity to adapt is already strained by conflict, forced displacement and political instability and other factors. These are the people that The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) serves.

The interrelation between climate changes, environmental degradation, conflict, forced displacement and political instability increases the complexity of humanitarian crises, refugee emergencies and protracted displacement situations. Understanding the complex correlations between humanitarian action and the level of vulnerability of these contexts is critical to DRC's ability to remain relevant in a changing humanitarian context.

According to the ND-GAIN Country Index,² which establishes the vulnerability to climate change in combination with its readiness to improve resilience, DRC operates in half of the 30 most vulnerable countries worldwide. In this scenario, the consequences for the most vulnerable and marginalized groups are profound. Consequently, humanitarian needs are increasing, and will continue to do so in the future. In effect, an ambitious climate agenda is becoming increasingly important for a humanitarian organization like DRC demonstrating why we must take responsibility to respond systematically to the challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation.



(1) The Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations. <https://www.climate-charter.org/>

(2) The Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative has developed the ND-GAIN Country Index (ND-GAIN) which summarizes a country's vulnerability to climate change and other global challenges in combination with its readiness to improve resilience. It aims to help governments, businesses and communities better prioritize investments for a more efficient response to the immediate global challenges ahead. <https://gain.nd.edu/our-work/country-index/rankings/>

This report outlines DRC's progress and achievements in line with our [Framework on Climate Change and Environment](#), the [DRC Strategy 2025](#) and our commitments under the [Climate and Environment Charter³ for Humanitarian Organizations](#). It also points to challenges for DRC to reach its targets, and shows examples of our climate and environment actions within the three core pillars of our Framework on Climate Change and Environment:

- Adaptation in Programmatic Response,
- Mitigating DRC's Environmental and Climate Footprint, and
- Advocacy for Displaced Persons in the Context of Climate Change.

These three pillars shape our response to the climate and environment crises and its interaction with forced displacement, where impacts on areas such as food, water and economic security increasingly interact with conflict dynamics and increase the impact of other drivers of conflict and fragility. The environmental performance targets set by DRC serve to ensure that we adapt to the changing circumstances, in our programming, operations and advocacy.

The first [DRC Climate and Environmental Performance report](#) published in 2021 defines the baseline against which we want to measure progress during the years to come. The current report covers the year 2022 and reports on the progress during that specific year against the Commitments adopted as part of [The Climate Charter](#). Several of the commitments are reflected across the pillars but will be described in the pillar where the main effort is done. This progress report will focus on progress at an organizational level. It should be read together with the newly released [Greening DRC - a Catalogue of selected Green Initiatives in the Danish Refugee Council](#) where more detailed information on the range of green initiatives and projects in DRC is presented.



(3) To be referred as "Climate Charter" in this report.

DRC Taking Action

Over the years, DRC has elaborated and adopted a range of strategies, guidelines and commitments supporting an ambitious course of action for the organization allowing it to remain relevant in a changing humanitarian context. The below publications and commitments guide the direction for how DRC not only forms part of the solution to the climate and environment crisis but becomes an active stakeholder driving the course of action.

- In January 2021, DRC published **The Framework on Climate Change and Environment**, which provides a framework for DRC's approach under three core pillars of action: Climate Adaptation in Programmatic Responses; Mitigation to reduce DRC environmental and climate footprint; and Advocacy for displaced persons in the context of climate change.
- The **DRC Strategy 2025**, builds on the Framework on Climate Change and Environment, where reinforcement of climate and conflict resilience is a strategic priority, and climate and environmental considerations are identified as a crosscutting principle across DRC operations and sectors.
- In June 2021, DRC adopted **The Climate and Environment Charter for the Humanitarian Organizations** developed by and for humanitarian organizations, expressing the humanitarian sector commitment. By adopting the Charter, DRC commits to ensuring that we have set specific targets that demonstrate how changes are being implemented, how adaptive capacities are strengthened, and how policies and strategies are leading to real reductions in our environmental impacts. This report, and the targets we outline in the following sections, is part of our commitments under the Charter.
- During 2020 and 2021, DRC participated in the development and piloting of a **Climate and Environment Mainstreaming Tool** with a range of other NGOs. The tool has allowed DRC to assess whether our ambitions of avoiding a negative impact on the climate & environment are integrated at organizational, partnership and intervention level. Such analysis serves as the first internal review of key policies, strategies and guidelines with regards to DRC's climate and environmental commitments.



**The Framework on
Climate Change and
Environment**



DRC Strategy 2025



**The Climate and
Environment Charter
for the Humanitarian
Organizations**



**The Climate and
Environment
Mainstreaming Tool**

The DRC Framework on Climate Change and Environment

Three core pillars of action shape the approach of DRC, each with its objective and ambitious targets.

Adaptation in Programmatic Responses

Objective:

Strengthen the resilience of displacement-affected communities to the impact of climate change and environmental degradation.

Target:

By 2025, climate and environmental risks will be identified and managed across all our programs and humanitarian operations in a strategic manner.

Mitigation to reduce DRC's environmental and climate footprint

Objective:

Improve the Climate and Environment footprint of DRC's practices by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and minimizing the negative impacts on the environment.

Targets:

1. DRC aims at reducing its carbon emissions by 2030 with minimum 50% compared to 2019 levels.
2. By 2025 each country operation throughout DRC will have elaborated a carbon baseline, updated carbon footprints and developed their own specific roadmap to reach the organizational target.

Advocacy for displaced persons in the context of climate change

Objective:

Support the rights of displaced persons affected by climate change addressing climate related protection needs.

Target:

By 2025, DRC is a leading advocate for displaced persons in the context of climate change and collaborates with climate experts, humanitarian and development agencies and others to ensure that displacement responses stand on solid analysis and evidence of linkages between climate change, environment and displacement.

Cross cutting: Mainstreaming of climate and environmental considerations into DRC policies and sectors

By 2025, climate and environmental considerations will be mainstreamed into all relevant DRC policies and sectors, and DRC staff and partners will be equipped to ensure environmental management throughout the programme cycle addressing climate and environmental risks.

DRC's Climate and Environment Framework aligns with the Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations

DRC's Climate and Environment Framework aligns with the Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations, signed by more than 350 organizations as of June 2023. Below we map where our commitments under the charter match with the pillars of action in our Climate and Environment Framework.

Adaptation in Programmatic Responses

Commitment 1: Step up our response to growing humanitarian needs and help people adapt to the impacts of the climate and environmental crises.

Commitment 3: Embrace the leadership of local actors and communities.

Mitigation to reduce DRC's environmental and climate footprint

Commitment 2: Maximize the environmental sustainability of our work and rapidly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

Advocacy for displaced persons in the context of climate change

Commitment 4: Increase our capacity to understand climate and environmental risks and develop evidence-based solutions

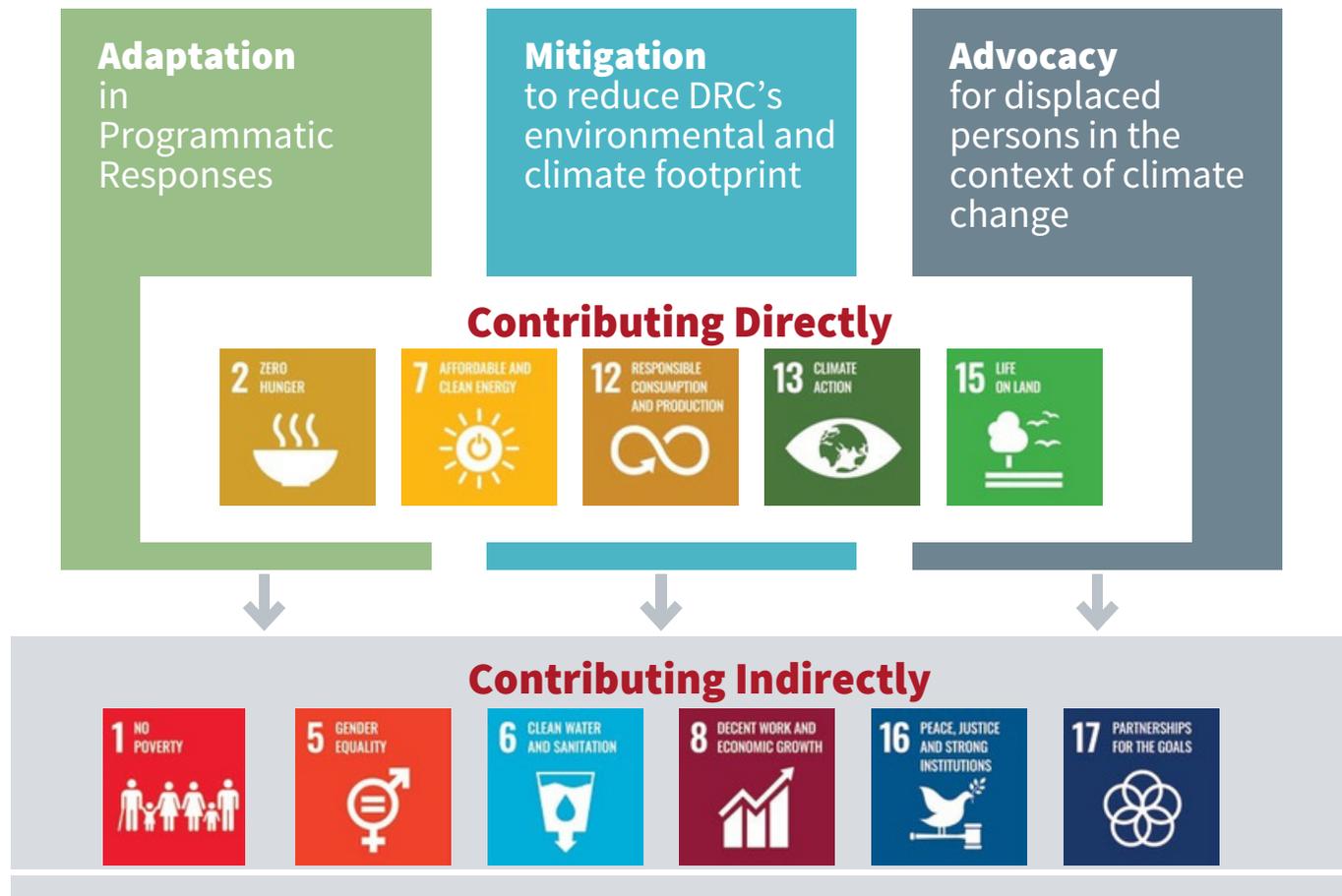
Commitment 6: Use our influence to mobilize urgent and more ambitious climate action and environmental protection.

Cross-cutting across all pillars

Commitment 2: Maximize the environmental sustainability of our work and rapidly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

Commitment 5: Work collaboratively across the humanitarian sector and beyond to strengthen climate and environmental action

In pursuit of the targets within the pillars of action in our Framework on Climate Change and Environment, we contribute to a range of SDGs



Pillar 1: Progress on Adaptation in Programmatic Response

Under this pillar DRC integrates climate resilience and adaptation in our programmatic response working across DRC core sectors and applies climate adaptation-focused approaches to build individual and community resilience, including through climate-smart agriculture, improved natural resource management (including water resource management), regenerative resilience design, disaster risk reduction and anticipatory action.

Initiatives under this pillar contribute to reducing risk and vulnerability to shocks and stresses, strengthen climate and environmental resilience among displacement affected populations, and thereby improve protection and livelihoods. Adaptation in programmatic response features prominently in DRC's Global Strategy 2025.

Target by 2025

By 2025, climate and environmental risks will be identified and managed across all our programs and humanitarian operations in a strategic manner.



DRC, Tanzania

DRC's Programmatic response is based on a Regenerative Design to strengthen community resilience

In 2022 DRC further developed its strategic programming portfolio with the aim of increasing resilience of displacement affected communities towards climate change and environmental degradation reflecting Commitment 1 of the Climate Charter:

① **Step up our response to growing humanitarian needs and help people adapt to the impacts of the climate and environmental crises**

DRC continued its efforts of strengthening resilience to climate change and environmental degradation of the displacement affected communities through a strategic approach to integrate holistic agricultural farming methods and natural resource management systematically working with a blend of refugees, host communities, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees, local governments and community leaders on regenerative practises.

In 2022 DRC worked with regenerative resilience designs in programming in countries such as Kenya, Burundi, Somalia, Uganda, Yemen, Tanzania and South Sudan, amongst others. Building climate resilience to transform and improve the lives and livelihoods of affected populations long-term, whilst simultaneously increasing the adaptive capacity of communities' agroecosystems, and thereby reducing vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change impacts.

DRC Uganda

An example of the DRC strategic approach to integrate localized and holistic rural and urban farming methods to support biodiversity regeneration, rebuild and rejuvenate soils, reduce and reuse waste, improve water management and build resilience to climatic shocks and stressors is the Northern Uganda Resilience Initiative (NURI)⁴. The project aims to build resilience to extreme drought and flood events and environmental degradation through three main interventions: 1. Climate-smart agriculture, 2. Water resources management, and 3. rural infrastructure development and rehabilitation.

NURI embraces a novel approach by incorporating road-water harvesting to redirect rainwater from the road to infiltration trenches and agricultural plots, thus reducing flood risk, irrigating agriculture, replenishing aquifers, and preserving the condition and useability of the road. NURI staff implemented a circuit of water harvesting dams that, once full, spill into contour ridges and bioswales, which increases the distribution and infiltration of rainwater into the soil.



DRC, Uganda

⁽⁴⁾ NURI, a 2018-2022 DANIDA-funded consortium led by DRCort.

Embrace the Leadership of local Actors and Communities

DRC has established an evidence base on building resilience of displacement affected communities to conflict and climate shocks by strengthening their immediate, medium and long-term livelihoods base, and by reinforcing conflict mitigation and peacebuilding capacities and mechanisms. Local leadership is key when applying regenerative practices to successfully mitigate floods and extreme weather events, drought and environmental conditions that create food insecurity and drive conflict.

DRC uses interdisciplinary concepts that bridge agroecology, agroforestry, peacebuilding, passive water harvesting and community design to address problems linked to climate change, ecological degradation, market disruption and community insecurity.

Experience and leadership of local actors and communities are key to the impact and long-term solutions of the programming of DRC. That is why DRC invests in locally-led durable solutions in our response to climate changes.

Examples of DRC climate resilience programming show how DRC builds on local traditional knowledge and context-specific adaptation leading to climate resilience programming.

DRC Burundi

In Burundi, the Resilient Colline project provided resilience design training, followed by various interventions, including using household waste to create permagardens; redesigning farms with earth/stone works; and using agroforestry, path water harvesting, and check dams and swales to restore local agroecosystems. As a result, rainwater infiltration and soil moisture retention increased, topsoil runoff and flash flood events were reduced, and household food and nutrition security improved. The resilience design was founded on local knowledge, adjusted to the specific social and ecological context of the colline and replication throughout the communities made possible due to local leadership.

DRC Yemen

DRC Yemen undertook initiatives on work skills building for women's groups and training on small-scale business development (i.e., breadmaking, agriculture, livestock) to increase income levels and assets to help mitigate and bounce back from shock events. In partnership with local farmers and community leaders, DRC Yemen established seed banks for multiple traditional seed stocks, developed community nurseries to produce seedlings of drought-resistant crops, and introduced community-managed permagardens, thus contributing to food/nutrition security and sustainable livelihood opportunities. Through its flood risk reduction programming, DRC Yemen has implemented earthen dams to reduce flooding and recharge groundwater, rehabilitated rural roads by building water harvesting ponds into road drainage structures, and restored spate irrigation gates to re-direct flooding in communities to agricultural lands. A design based on traditional knowledge and local leadership.

3 *Commitment 3 of the Climate Charter: Embrace the leadership of local actors and communities*

Anticipatory action as a key approach ensuring that displacement responses stand on solid analysis and evidence of linkages between climate change, environment and displacement - an approach led by local actors

DRC steps up the response by using data modelling to get ahead of drought displacement

In East Africa, DRC has funded the development of a slow-onset drought related displacement model to understand the complex system of variables driving displacement of pastoralist in the Horn of Africa. The model can be used to simulate how below average rainfall and drought conditions can lead to displacement up to 72 months in the future. Further, the model makes it possible to factor in how different interventions might mitigate the displacement.

In 2022, an [online user interface](#) has been developed for the model to create easy access for external users. To use the model for anticipatory action, DRC set up local anticipatory action committees in pastoralist villages in Somalia. Together with the communities, DRC defined the type of support the pastoralist would like to receive ahead of a drought and the triggers for activating the response. A community monitoring mechanism was furthermore established to assess the access to water and pasture in the villages on a continuous basis. This information combined with the simulations from the slow-onset drought related displacement model is used to trigger the anticipatory action activities.

As part of this project, DRC has also worked with the Puntland Information Management Center for Water and Land Resources (IMC). They are responsible for producing the seasonal weather forecasts that go into the displacement simulation model. IMC has received training on the model and how they can use it to conduct their own displacement simulations when they produce the weather forecasts that are then disseminated to local communities and other public agencies and humanitarian actors.



DRC, Somalia

Pillar 2: Progress on Mitigation

Reducing DRC's Carbon and Environmental Footprint

Commitment 2 of the Climate Charter aims at Maximizing the environmental sustainability of our work and rapidly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, which is reflected in the work being done in pillar 2 of the DRC Climate and Environmental Framework.

In line with the Climate Charter, DRC is committed to avoiding, minimizing and managing the damage we cause to the environment and the climate, while maintaining our ability to provide timely and principled humanitarian assistance. In this regard DRC has started to systematically assess our impact as an organization throughout programming and operations, and to develop policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve environmental sustainability.

Setting an ambitious target, DRC aims at reducing its carbon emissions by 2030 with minimum 50% compared to 2019 levels.

To reach this target each country operation throughout DRC will finalize a carbon baseline latest in 2025 to be able to measure our organisational greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, all DRC countries will develop and start implementing their own specific roadmap with measures to reduce carbon emissions, latest by 2025, to contribute reaching the organizational target in 2030 and develop updated carbon footprints as we progress. This allows for systematically evaluating the progress and use our influence to push for more sustainable humanitarian action.

Reducing our carbon emissions by a minimum of 50% in 2030 compared to 2019 levels sets a very ambitious course for DRC. It requires new ways of programming and operating across the organization, new technical expertise and new partnerships, and in some areas the cost implications are not fully known. Depending on the country, the context, and the nature of our activities, the sources of CO₂ emissions vary, and therefore DRC adopts context-based solutions.



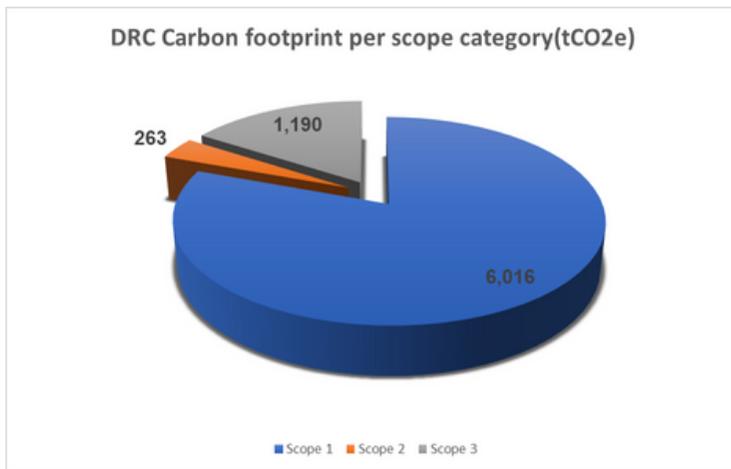
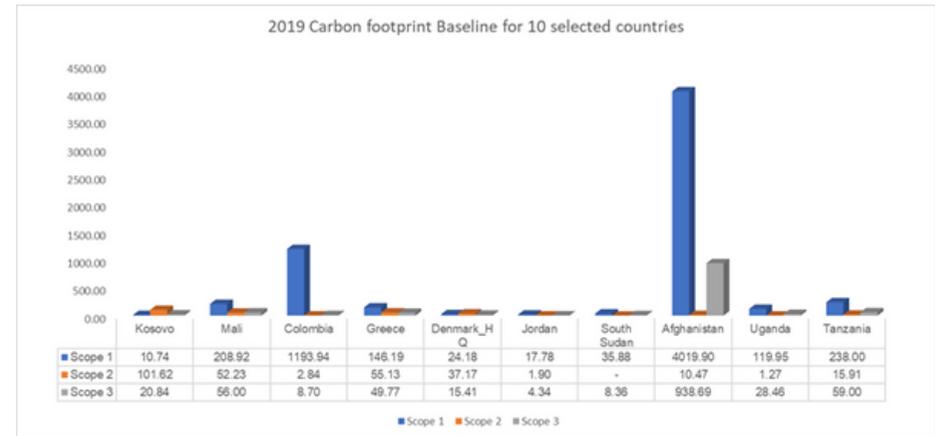
DRC, Tanzania

An Organisational Carbon Baseline is taking shape

After having developed a customized carbon accounting tool in 2021 with a range of Danish NGOs, in 2022 DRC took the next step and participated in the development of a unified carbon accounting tool at European level, The Humanitarian carbon calculator. 2022 was a year of development and testing of the tools, bringing the best of both into a unified tool for future use in the humanitarian sector.

In 2022, DRC succeeded in elaborating 25% of its total carbon baselines for country offices, a total of 10 country operations, which allows for a first indication of where the highest emissions sources are to be found within the organization. The first carbon baselines were limited to the mandatory scope 1 and scope 2 combined with a selected category in scope 3 as illustrated below.⁵ A large part of DRC emissions is expected to be found in supply chain and logistics within scope 3. However, these categories are not part of the baselines done in 2022, which does not allow for a full picture of the organisational carbon footprint. In the coming years, the baseline tool and analysis will gradually incorporate the remaining categories within scope 3 to provide a more accurate assessment of the emissions across our portfolio.

A majority of the emissions from 10 DRC country offices are associated with Scope 1. Scope 1 covers stationary and mobile combustion from DRC controlled sources, whereas scope 2 covers indirect emissions from electricity consumption as well as heating, steam and cooling.⁶



Through 2022, DRC has encountered several challenges in relation to producing an accurate and actionable carbon baseline. Limitations in the baseline activity data, different data quality and access across country operations, alongside challenges of introducing a new work stream in an organization with many competing agendas has resulted in slower-than-hoped-for progress. Based on the experiences of collecting and analysing data across the first 10 DRC countries in 2022, DRC will assess its data collection and analysis modality in 2023 to develop a scalable and standardized model that is suitable for the organization.

(5) Sub-category 3.3 Fuel & Energy related to activities not included in scope 1 & 2

(6) DRC uses the International accounting standards of the International Greenhouse Gas Protocol. To learn more about the different scopes and methodologies, see: <https://ghgprotocol.org/standards>

DRC has a clear **Priority hierarchy** when working towards the carbon reduction target in 2030. The ambition is to first prioritize **cutting** emissions, secondly **reducing** emissions and as a last resort **compensating** to reach the target of a 50% reduction in 2030. Examples across the DRC countries show that country offices work in parallel with the priority hierarchy, - compensating while working towards solutions of cutting and reducing emissions thereby reducing the need for compensation in time.

An example is DRC Colombia, which in 2022 became 100% carbon neutral within all ground- and air-travel, while working continuously towards more sustainable travel culture by cutting and reducing carbon emissions.



DRC adhering to International standards and conventions

DRC's targets represent our ambitions to contribute to reaching the targets of the Paris agreement. The Paris Agreement's Article 2's central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Initiatives to reduce the DRC's Carbon Footprint

Through 2022, DRC took several initial steps to reduce our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and minimize the negative environmental impacts associated with our internal conduct and operations. An example is the development of a [Sustainable Procurement Policy](#), which will include subjects such as waste management and natural resource use which is complementary to emissions reduction targets leading to reduction of environmental degradation, pollution, and biodiversity loss. The Sustainable Procurement Policy is planned to be published in 2023 and regarded key to a systematic organisational change.

DRC Greening month of September 2022

DRC is working on the Green agenda throughout the whole year, but September is the month when the organisation focuses even more on our Greening efforts across DRC. The first DRC Greening month of September took place in 2022, where all offices across the 40 countries were invited to submit innovative ideas and initiatives of all sizes and scopes. More than 60 daring and bright ideas were collected worldwide as a vital part of DRC's environmental transition, intensifying our work within sustainable solutions to improve conditions for displaced communities affected by climate changes and environmental degradation as well as to reduce our own impact as an organisation. The most promising ideas were awarded by an expert and knowledgeable jury, DRC being represented by our Secretary General Charlotte Slente, together with Susanne Pedersen from UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre, and Associate Director of Climate & Sustainability Services at Arup, Peter Vangsbo.

The DRC Greening month of September 2022 furthermore resulted in the development of a [DRC Greening Masterclass](#) focusing on building capacity among DRC staff within 5 key areas of possible emission reduction; Greening DRC premises and offices, Circular economy, Mobilisation, Sustainable supply chain and phasing out fossil fuels. The Masterclass is planned to take place during the first half of 2023 with support from internal and external experts on the different subjects.



Pillar 3: Progress on Advocacy

for Displaced Persons in the Context of Climate Change

Target by 2025

By 2025, DRC is a leading advocate for displaced persons in the context of climate change and collaborates with climate experts, humanitarian and development agencies and others to ensure that displacement responses stand on solid analysis and evidence of linkages between climate change, environment and displacement.

④ **Commitment 4 of the Climate charter: Work towards increasing our capacity to understand climate and environmental risks and develop evidence-based solutions**

Under the Advocacy pillar, DRC aims to increase our contribution to better understanding and acting on the increasing linkages between climate change, environmental degradation and forced displacement based on the latest and up-to-date research, thereby turning Commitment 4 of the Climate Charter into reality. As part of DRC's organizational research agenda, DRC and the Mixed Migration Centre (MMC)⁷ commit to work jointly on enhancing the evidence base for the increasingly complex intersection between climate change and mixed migration flows.

THE ENVIRONMENT- CONFLICT-MIGRATION NEXUS IN ASIA



In 2022, the Research report *Exploring the Environment-Conflict-Migration Nexus in Asia* was published providing a deeper understanding of the climate-migration-conflict nexus in the Asia-Pacific region, with a focus on Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Myanmar, and more specifically, the intersectionality of climate change and conflict dynamics in these fragile and conflict-affected contexts. The study was conducted with the Stockholm Environment Institute.

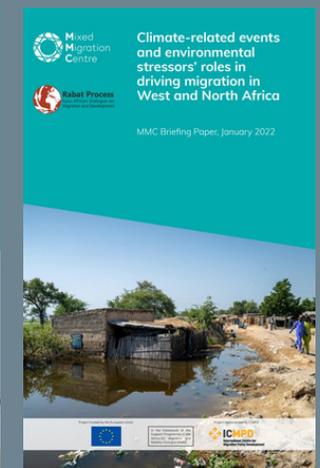
(7) [Home | Mixed Migration Centre](#). MMC is a leading source for independent and high-quality data, information, research, and analysis on mixed migration and its teams are located across DRC offices in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. MMC is part of, and governed by, the Danish Refugee Council, and while its institutional link to DRC ensures that MMC's work is grounded in operational reality, it acts as an independent source of data, research, analysis and policy development on mixed migration. MMC aims to support agencies, policy makers and practitioners to make well-informed decisions, to positively impact global and regional migration policies, to contribute to protection and assistance responses for people on the move and to stimulate forward thinking in the sector responding to mixed migration.

DRC and the Mixed Migration Center Setting out a Research agenda to understand Climate change and Environmental degradation as drivers of displacement and mixed migration

Some of the main MMC publications in 2022:

As part of DRC's organizational research agenda, DRC and the Mixed Migration Centre (MMC) commit to work jointly on enhancing the evidence base for the increasingly complex intersection between climate change and mixed migration flows.

- Climate change, environmental stressors, and mixed migration - Insights and key messages drawn from a decade of MMC research and 4Mi data collection:***
 This paper presents seven key messages on climate change, environmental stressors, and mixed migration in an effort to nuance the narratives on the links between climate change and migration that too often are overly simplistic and reductive, resulting in unreliable estimates of the numbers of people fleeing climate change
- Climate-related drivers of mixed migration in East and the Horn of Africa***
 Climate change is impacting lives and livelihoods across the African continent, through increasing temperatures, shifting rainfall patterns and an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events. This snapshot examines environmental drivers of international mobility and their interactions with other migration drivers in East and the Horn of Africa.
- Climate mobility in Khartoum Process countries - an exploration of interventions***
 MMC undertook research on climate and mobility within the EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative (Khartoum Process) with the aim to better understand not only the links between climate change and mobility in Khartoum Process countries, but also to gain an understanding of current activities relating to climate mobility.
- Climate-related events and environmental stressors' roles in driving migration in West and North Africa***
 This paper provides a brief literature review of the state-of-the-art on environmental change and migration outcomes and insights into how some people who cross international borders [...] perceive environmental factors as direct or indirect stressors within their movement decision-making.

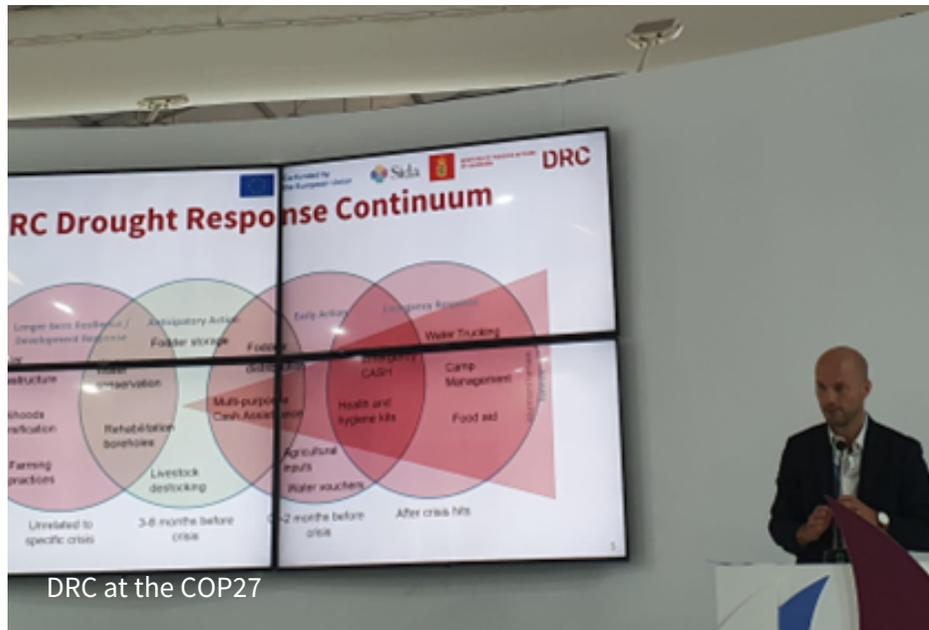


DRC and Mixed Migration Center commit to ambitious Climate Action

In our advocacy efforts, DRC works in line with commitment 6 in the Climate Charter using our influence to mobilize urgent and more ambitious climate action and environmental protection.

In 2022, DRC took ambitious steps on the international arena starting the process of applying for accreditation with the UNFCCC and participating in international fora and events such as the COP27 bringing the voice of displaced people into the international discussions.

⑥ **Commitment 6: Use our influence to mobilize urgent and more ambitious climate action and environmental protection.**



An example of how DRC and MMC are seeking to influence the international climate agenda to involve forcibly displaced people is the participation at COP27 of both organisations. DRC and MMC participated at the COP27 with separate sessions in the Climate Mobility Pavilion.

DRC put emphasis on unfolding the subject of Anticipatory action in Land, Water and Food systems for Peace. DRC and CGIAR, a global research partnership for a food-secure future, focused at transforming food, land and water systems in a climate crisis exploring sustainable and resilient land, water and food systems for those on the move, those left behind, and those receiving displaced populations, and how anticipatory action systems can be better integrated into human mobility dynamics.

MMC held a panel discussion at the Climate Mobility Pavilion on “Stories of climate mobility: understanding the impacts, informing effective response”. Through this event, MMC and partners demonstrated the critical importance of evidence, of robust research and analysis, for responding effectively to the impacts of climate change on mobility.

the impacts, informing effective response
Panel Discussion at the Climate Mobility Pavilion at COP27
Hosted by the Global Centre for Climate Mobility

15 November
15:00-16:00 local time (GMT +2)

Blue Zone, Area B,
Delegation Pavilion 1, Pavilion #P28
Sharm El-Sheikh International
Convention Center (SHICC)

Stories of climate mobility: understanding the impacts, informing effective response

- Raphaela Schweiger
Program Director
Migration, Robert
Bosch Stiftung
- Jane Linekar
4MI Global
Coordinator, Mixed
Migration Centre
- Ritu Bharadwaj
Principal Researcher
and Team Leader,
Governance of Risk,
Climate Change
Group, International
Institute of
- Dr. Priscilla M. Achakpa
Founder and
Executive Director
of Women
Environmental
Programme (WEP)

Progress on Mainstreaming of Climate and Environmental Considerations into DRC Policies and Sectors

Target 2025

By 2025, climate and environmental considerations will be mainstreamed into all relevant DRC policies and sectors, and DRC staff and partners will be equipped to ensure environmental management throughout the programme cycle addressing climate and environmental risks.

This target is reached through the integration of climate and environmental considerations into existing DRC global organisational policies and sector-specific guidelines in combination with the development and roll-out of specific mainstreaming tools such as the Environmental Screening tool, NEAT+.



Mainstreaming Environmental Considerations into DRC sectors

In 2022, DRC started integrating climate and environmental considerations into four of the five DRC core sectors:

Protection sector

In 2021, the Platform of Disaster Displacement and DRC undertook joint research with The Overseas Development Institute to seek a better understanding of what the protection sector needs to do differently to effectively address protection risks related to climate change, **Addressing protection risks in a climate-changed world: challenges and opportunities**.⁸ In 2022, at the Annual Global Protection Network Meeting, a dedicated session on Climate Change and Protection took place based on the findings of the report.

Shelter and Settlements sector

DRC participated in the elaboration of **The Construction Good Practice Standards 2021**, which was rolled out during 2022. This version of the Standards entails a focus on long-term sustainability of a project, including environmental and social impacts on the local area. In 2022 the Construction Good Practice Standards was launched in four languages and specific online and on-site trainings were rolled out throughout DRC countries.

Economic Recovery sector

In 2022, DG-ECHO published **The Minimum Environmental Requirements and Recommendations**⁹ with the aim of “supporting the implementation of a greener humanitarian response and reducing the environmental footprint of EU humanitarian aid”. Consequently, the minimum environmental requirements were embedded in all new proposals in the DRC Economic Recovery sector.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) sector

The Global Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster published the first edition of **The Minimum Standards in Camp Management** in 2021.¹⁰ In 2022, DRC has systematically rolled out the Minimum Standards, where environmental considerations are incorporated, considering the environmental impact of the site, measures to limit environmental damage and reduce disaster as part of camp management.



8) https://cdn.odi.org/media/documents/DRC_Climate_change_and_protection_web_LN5Uggl.pdf

9) European Commission, Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), DG ECHO's minimum environmental requirements and recommendations, Publications Office of the European Union, 2022, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2795/869610>

10) <https://www.cccmcluster.org/resources/minimum-standards-camp-management>

Ensuring Environmental Sustainability through the use of Environmental Screening Tools, such as NEAT +

As stated in Commitment 2 of the Climate Charter, DRC has committed to maximizing the environmental sustainability of our work.

In line with the principle of “do no harm”, we will avoid, minimize and manage the negative impact caused to the environment and the climate, while maintaining our ability to provide timely and principled humanitarian assistance.

In 2022, DRC launched NEAT+ training material on its internal page with valuable guidance on the use of the tool, supporting DRC staff globally on the application and further incorporation of results. This training toolbox allows DRC staff to quickly understand the tool, how to use the tool and create confidence to implement it in the field.

The NEAT+ is designed to help our staff with little or no environmental expertise to obtain a quick analysis of the environmental sensitivities and risks of their projects. The NEAT+ is designed to deliver a snapshot of the environmental concerns in a humanitarian context in a small-scale geographical area. A small intervention with a big impact!

2 ***Commitment 2: Maximize the environmental sustainability of our work and rapidly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.***

Mainstreaming across DRC sector policies is connected to several of the commitments in the Climate Charter, but to avoid duplication in this report, only two commitments are presented in this chapter recognizing that the mainstreaming work in DRC goes beyond these. In line with the Commitment 5 of the Climate Charter DRC works in the intersections of DRC’s Operational Principles Go Green & Go Local and DRC’s climate and environmental action Framework in its efforts to support building climate resilient communities.

5 ***Commitment 5: Work collaboratively across the humanitarian sector and beyond to strengthen climate and environmental action***

DRC works closely with grassroots community associations, local and international NGOs, UN Agencies, and other important actors such as local and national governments, to address climate & environment-related issues. This approach boosts community ownership and decision-making, reduces dependence on DRC’s assistance, incorporates local knowledge and solutions around adaptation and mitigation, and increases long-term sustainability of initiatives.



DRC, Burundi

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