

CONCEPT NOTE  
SOMALIA PAVILION AT COP 28

*Climate change, insecurity and mobility in fragile states:  
A new approach on climate adaptation and peacebuilding*

**Date: December 4, 2023**

**Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Gulf Standard Time**

**Venue: Somalia Pavilion**

**Context**

In fragile and conflict affected settings, such as Somalia and Haiti, extreme weather events affect three times as many people annually compared to other countries. Already ravaged by conflict, insecurity and poverty, climate change is an accelerator of humanitarian needs. The result is more hunger, more poverty, more insecurity, and more migration. Despite this, people living in extremely fragile states receive a fraction, up to 80 times less<sup>1</sup> of climate finance compared to those in non-fragile states. These countries contribute almost nothing to climate change yet are paying the highest price.

Haiti is the most vulnerable country in Latin America and the Caribbean to climate change. In Haiti, climate change impacts combine with and exacerbate the deep political crisis and socio-economic divisions that have characterized the country for decades. Today, Haiti is facing a proper economic, political and security collapse. With the effects of climate change, new conflict dynamics and mobility patterns are emerging.

At the initiative of UNEP and Haiti's Ministry of the Environment, the Haiti Climate Security Working Group was constituted in 2022, bringing together more than 60 UN agencies, international organizations, government institutions and civil society organizations. This collaborative approach aimed at producing an introductory study on climate security in Haiti to raise awareness and accelerate adaptation to the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation on various dimensions of security, while strengthening resilience and moving the country forward towards sustainable development. The study, realized by adelphi, concludes that addressing the complex and multidimensional challenges – climate and environmental, security, political, economic and humanitarian – that Haiti is facing will require a new way to look at them- a new approach with an explicit focus on climate and peacebuilding, with inclusion at its heart<sup>2</sup>.

Many fragile countries, such as Somalia, are facing similar challenges than Haiti and have come up with innovative solutions and responses that integrate environmental peacebuilding to climate change adaptation measures. Yet, these innovative practices need to be enhanced, scaled up and supported by finance instruments, policies and programmes.

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<sup>1</sup> COP28 UAE Press Release, *COP28 President and WFP Chief call for urgent climate action to reduce rising humanitarian needs*, November 9, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Adelphi, *Roots for peace: Uncovering climate security challenges in Haiti and what to do about them*, 2023.

## **COP 28**

Cop 28, which will be held in Dubai from November 30 to December 12, has among its priorities:

1. To support mitigation solutions
2. To improve financing for adaptation
3. To make progress on the operationalization of the loss and damage fund created at COP 27 and
4. To ensure more equitable access to climate finance.

It is also the only COP which will have in its programming a specific session on recovery peace and security.

### **Description of the session (duration 1h30)**

This session will serve to strengthen joint advocacy of fragile states in line with the above-mentioned priorities of COP 28.

The event of about 1h30 will take the form of an interactive discussion panel. The Haiti Ministry of environment and the international think tank Adelphi will start by communicating the results and recommendations of the Climate Security Study in Haiti (2023), after which the members of the panel will share the particular challenges they are facing with regards to climate change and insecurity and demonstrate scalable solutions being implemented in their country. The UN Climate Security Mechanism will then share the results of a Thematic Review on climate, security, and peacebuilding (2022). The panel will also showcase how natural resource management or localized climate adaptation can become an entry point for greater inclusion of women and youth in local governance and decision-making processes. At the end of the presentations, a period will be dedicated to audience interaction.

The event will inform other countries facing similar challenges and lead to a community of practice on climate security programming and fund for innovation and hopefully have a catalytic effect to bring larger donor funding for climate-security into more fragile and conflict-affected areas.

### **Expected Speakers**

Ms. Gerty Pierre, Director of Climate Change, Ministry of Environment of Haiti

Mr. Hassan Yasin, Executive Director, Somali Greenpeace Association

Ms. Alexandra Fong, Chief Policy and Guidance, UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Director of the Climate Security Mechanism.

Ms. Beatrice Mosello, Senior Advisor, adelphi

Mr. Musaed Aklan, Senior Researcher for Environment and Water, Sanaa's Center for Strategic Studies, Yemen

Moderator: Ms. Paule Juneau, Coordinator of the Climate Security Group and Environmental law specialist, UNEP/Haiti.

(Expected Speakers from South Sudan and other fragile states to be confirmed.)