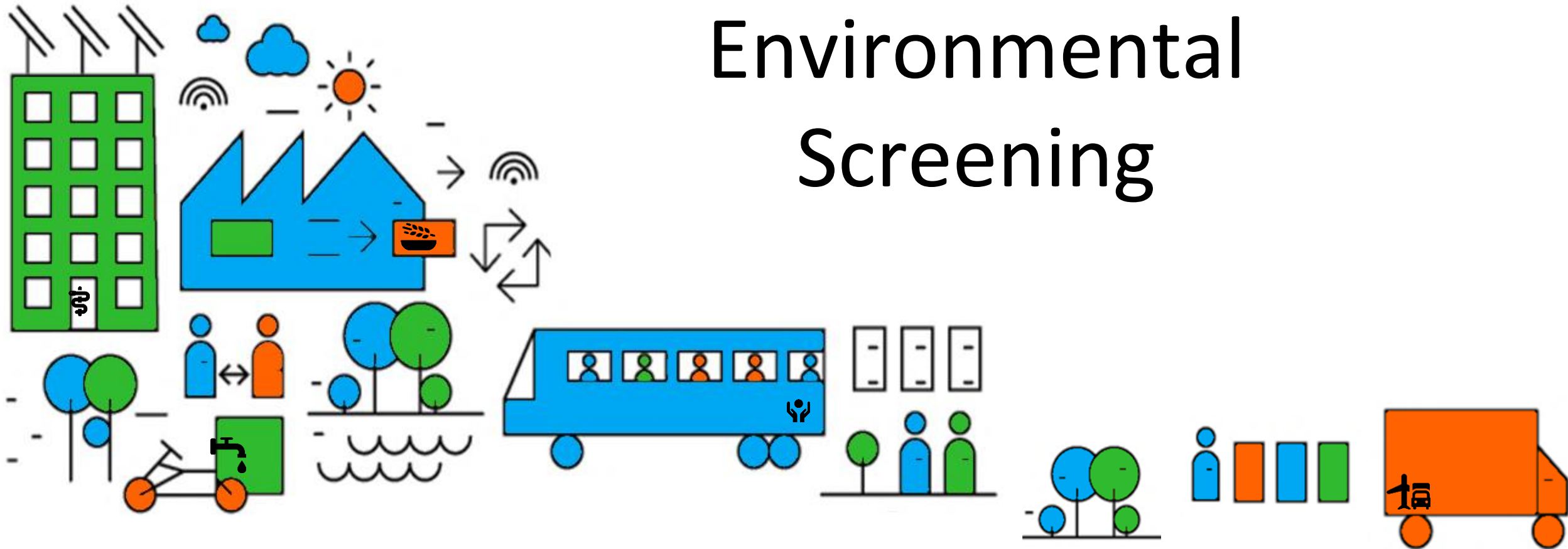


A Short Crash Course On Environmental Screening



Today we will cover:

Context: why we consider environment in humanitarian action

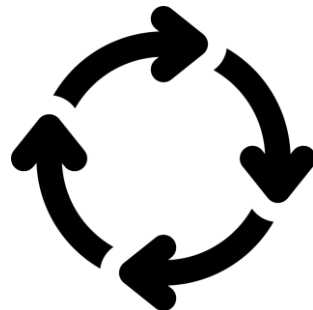
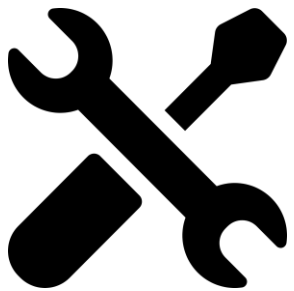
How to do a basic environmental screening

Tools and resources



From a resource point of view, environmental considerations are considerations of **efficiency and responsibility**.

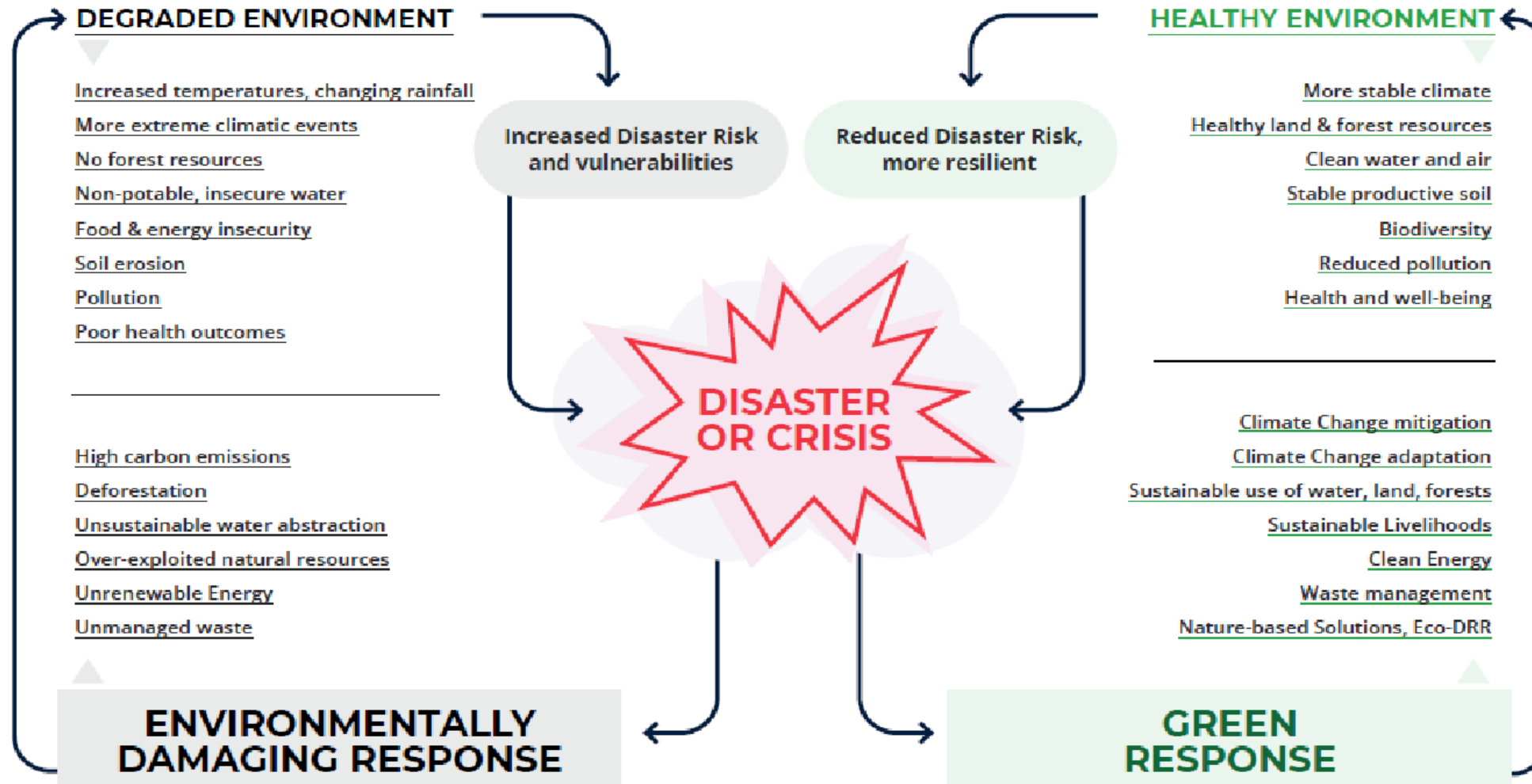
The integration of environment into humanitarian programmes and operations is critical to ensure the **effectiveness, sustainability and accountability** of humanitarian operations.





Taking a rights-based view,
we owe it to the people we serve to do our part to
ensure they can enjoy **their human right to a clean,
healthy and sustainable environment**

Response cycles from the environmental perspective



When things go wrong



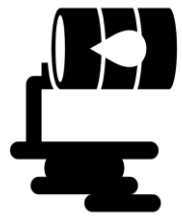
Polluted rivers from waste and run-off: downstream communities don't have clean water, fish and other local aquatic resources die



Plastic and packaging waste piles up in ditches and rivers: plastic is burnt causing toxic smoke that causes illness; drains and canals get blocked and flood when it rains



Relief supplies are stopped at the border or at ports because they are wrapped in single use plastics which are illegal in that country



Vehicles and diesel generator are overused and fluids are incorrectly stored fuels and oils spill into the soil and cause pollution

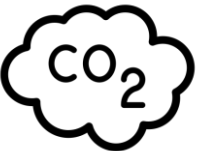
Trees are cut down for household energy needs and (re) construction, removing all the forest and leaving the soil exposed: there is not enough energy for people to cook their food, women and children walk dangerous distances to get fuel



Ground is cleared for construction, using bulldozers: all the vegetation is removed, and the ground becomes eroded and unproductive



Over-reliance on international procurement, and long-distance transportation, generates excessive CO2 emissions which contributes to climate change



Well intended projects to recovery and livelihoods cause unexpected negative impact on natural resources, like overfishing, or introducing plant or animal pests



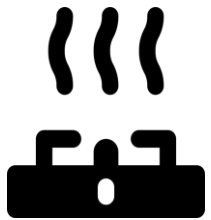
When things go right



Good waste management: clean rivers and land and downstream communities have safe clean water



Recycling provides income opportunities for communities and prevents plastic waste from being burnt or becoming pollution

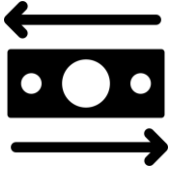


Households have clean cooking energy: they can cook their food faster, women stay safe and children can go to school, indoor air is cleaner, and local forests are protected



Renewable energy is used in offices reducing the need for fuels and cutting greenhouse gas emissions

Procurement of locally produced items, or Cash and Voucher Assistance which considers the environment, helps to reduce the carbon footprint from our supply chain



Ground is cleared sensitively: grass and other vegetation remains in place and protects the soils, there is no erosion and household gardens thrive, improving food security



Water supply systems are maintained: water is conserved so everyone has enough and greywater is collected to provide water for gardens



Communities are more aware and empowered to protect their environment, and participate in environmental action



Environmental screening

Environmental screening is the foundation for integrating environmental considerations into humanitarian projects, programmes and operations.

This is the most important element of environmental mainstreaming that all humanitarian practitioners need understand and master.



What is environmental Screening

Environmental screening is the first basic, but **vital, step to improving the environmental sustainability** of humanitarian projects.

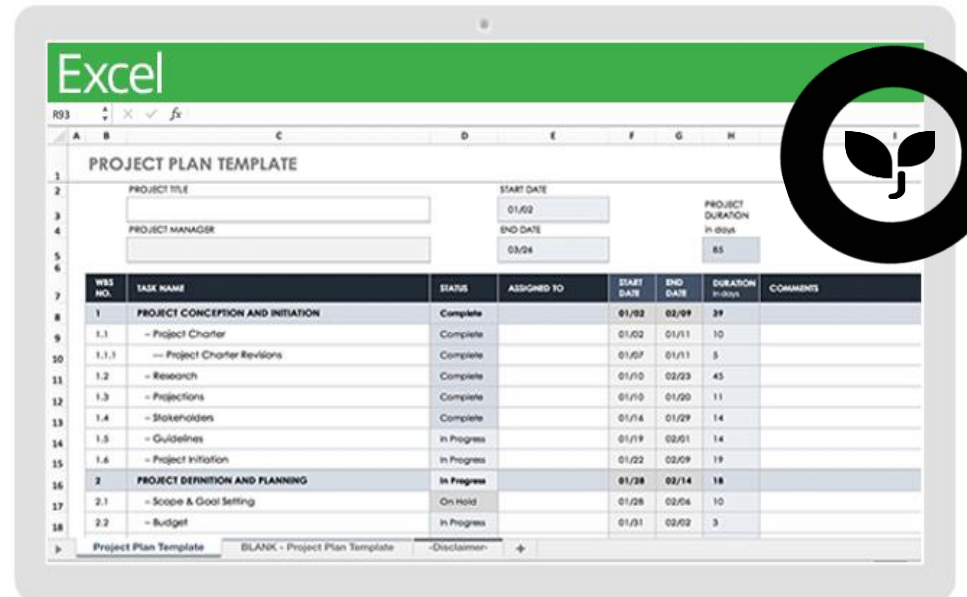


Environmental screening is a **simple, standardised approach to determining the potential environmental impacts of a project or activity so that these impacts can be avoided or mitigated.**

Environmental screening is a simplified form of environmental impact assessment and can be used for a single project or an entire humanitarian operation with the expectation that the effort put into the screening should be proportional to the likely environmental impact of the project.

When to do Environmental Screening

- It is best to conduct an environmental screening as **part of the project or activity planning** process.
- It is necessary to have a good understanding of what the activities and actions will be, but **still have an opportunity to make changes** and improvements.
- Environmental Screening can normally be conducted by the **programme manager and the project team with a good understanding of the planned activities** and a basic awareness of the environmental context of the project site.
- For very large projects/operations, projects with multiple components that are likely to have a significant environmental impact, or projects in sensitive environmental contexts, specialist assistance will be needed.



The image shows a screenshot of an Excel spreadsheet titled "PROJECT PLAN TEMPLATE". The spreadsheet is organized into sections for project details and a task list. A magnifying glass icon is overlaid on the right side of the spreadsheet, focusing on a small leaf symbol in the top right corner.

| WBS NO. | TASK NAME | STATUS | ASSIGNED TO | START DATE | END DATE | DURATION (Days) | COMMENTS |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| 1 | PROJECT CONCEPTION AND INITIATION | Complete | | 01/02 | 02/09 | 39 | |
| 1.1 | - Project Charter | Complete | | 01/02 | 01/11 | 10 | |
| 1.1.1 | --- Project Charter Revisions | Complete | | 01/07 | 01/11 | 5 | |
| 1.2 | - Research | Complete | | 01/10 | 02/23 | 45 | |
| 1.3 | - Projections | Complete | | 01/10 | 01/20 | 11 | |
| 1.4 | - Stakeholders | Complete | | 01/14 | 01/29 | 14 | |
| 1.5 | - Guidelines | In Progress | | 01/19 | 02/01 | 14 | |
| 1.6 | - Project Initiation | In Progress | | 01/22 | 02/09 | 19 | |
| 2 | PROJECT DEFINITION AND PLANNING | In Progress | | 01/28 | 02/14 | 18 | |
| 2.1 | - Scope & Goal Setting | On Hold | | 01/28 | 02/04 | 10 | |
| 2.2 | - Budget | In Progress | | 01/31 | 02/02 | 3 | |

How to Conduct an Environmental Screening

The likely environmental impacts of a project are identified by **predicting the interaction between the known sensitivities of the environment and the physical changes** that will be caused by the activities.

To conduct an environmental screening, you need a good understanding of the planned activity, with a focus on the **physical actions** that will take place

The image shows a screenshot of an Excel spreadsheet titled "PROJECT PLAN TEMPLATE". The spreadsheet is displayed on a tablet-like device. A magnifying glass icon with a green leaf symbol is positioned over the right side of the spreadsheet. Three green arrows point from the left towards the spreadsheet, each labeled with a question: "Transport?", "Procurement?", and "Construction?".

| WBS NO. | TASK NAME | STATUS | ASSIGNED TO | START DATE | END DATE | DURATION In days | COMMENTS |
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Step 1. Identify the environmental inputs and outputs of the activity and any changes caused

Review the project plan and identify all the physical actions that will need to occur and what they **bring into, take out of, or change** in the environment.



Example: Setting up container houses

Ins

- Prefabricated container
- Generators for construction tools and equipment
- Fuel and oil for generators and transport vehicles
- Greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles and generators
- Waste from food and supplies for project staff and construction contractors

Outs

- Soil material from the site preparation
- Water for the running water systems

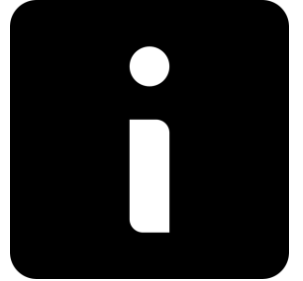
Changes

- Land use changes at the site – agricultural to housing?
- Increase in waste production during construction
- Possible increase in water demand in the short and longer term

Step 2. Determine the sensitivities of the environment

Consider the **local environment in which the activities will take place**. Think about things such as:

Climate, Topography, Natural resources, Water sources, Local population, Land use, Local industry, Services such as electricity or sanitation, Road access, Protected areas and Cultural sites



Example: Rural areas around a city

Climate: Dry Mediterranean, one wet season and hot summers

Topography: Low hills, grasslands and cropland. Fragile, erodible soils.

Natural resources: Range and crop lands

Land use: Small scale livestock rangeland farming

Water sources: Local streams with some rivers. Groundwater is known to exist in aquifers.

Local population: Local population previously divided into small village communities with social and economic links to the urban areas.

Local Industry: Largely small holder farming on site, with some participation in urban economic activities

Access: Good roads but too narrow for large delivery trucks

Protected Areas: A migratory bird nesting area is nearby

Key cultural sites: The area is known to have numerous important historical sites

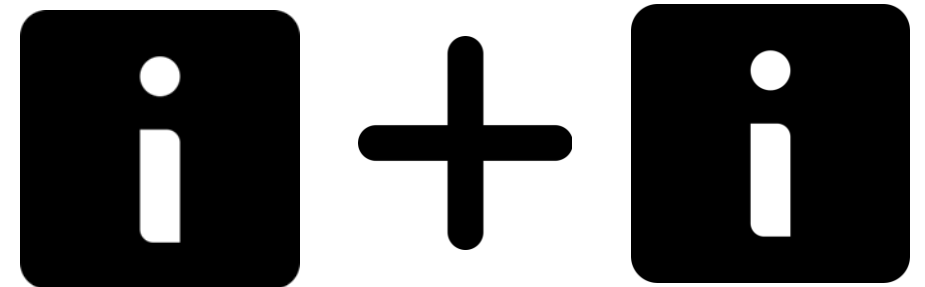
Step 3. Determine the Key Impacts

Compare the list of ins and outs with the identified environmental sensitivities to determine the key impacts. It is **the interaction between the project ins and outs and the environment that is important**. Some things may be fine in one context but not in another.

e.g. Construction project in areas with poor roads and disrupted local waste management systems is likely to have more impact than the same project in a large city with active municipal waste collection.

Example: Setting up container houses in rural areas outside a city

- Bores could over-use local ground water
- Site preparation can cause loss of agricultural land and reduce drainage
- Generators and vehicles will require fuel and oil, this will create waste chemicals
- No systems for dealing with solid waste at the site can lead to open dumping or burning
- Nesting birds may be disturbed



Step 4. Identify Improvements

Investigate options to reduce or improve the key impacts, e.g. using biodegradable cardboard packaging instead of plastic. To find ideas discuss the options with colleagues, review the ideas in guidance documents or ask for assistance from subject specialists.

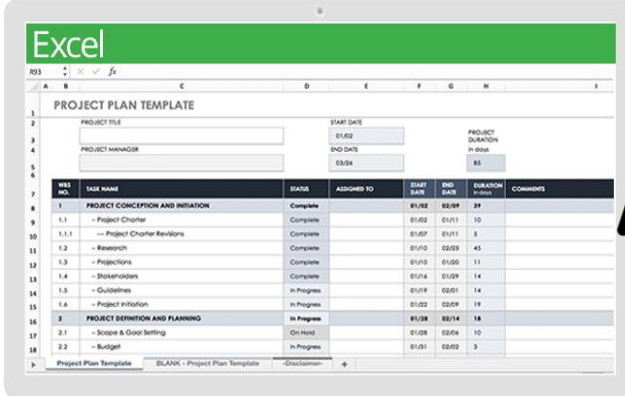
Example: Setting up container houses in rural areas outside a city

- Assess aquifer system before any drilling and establish ongoing monitoring of the aquifer
- Reduce the amount of land needed through careful site planning
- Where possible retain ground cover and trees
- Identify and use safe and legal disposal centres for waste oils
- Limit the greenhouse gas emissions by planning vehicle movements well to reducing the amount of travel back and forth to the location
- Establish small-scale waste separation on site and remove non-biodegradable solid waste brought to the location
- Use transport routes that avoid high biodiversity areas during key seasons



Step 5 Revise the Project Plan

Update the project plan to include the improvements that have been identified to reduce the environmental impact. **This could mean changing some activities or adding new ones.** Include appropriate indicators in the monitoring plan.



The image shows a screenshot of an Excel spreadsheet titled "PROJECT PLAN TEMPLATE". The spreadsheet is organized into a table with columns for Task No., Task Name, Status, Assigned To, Start Date, End Date, Duration, and Comments. The data is divided into two main sections: "PROJECT CONCEPTION AND INITIATION" and "PROJECT DEFINITION AND PLANNING".

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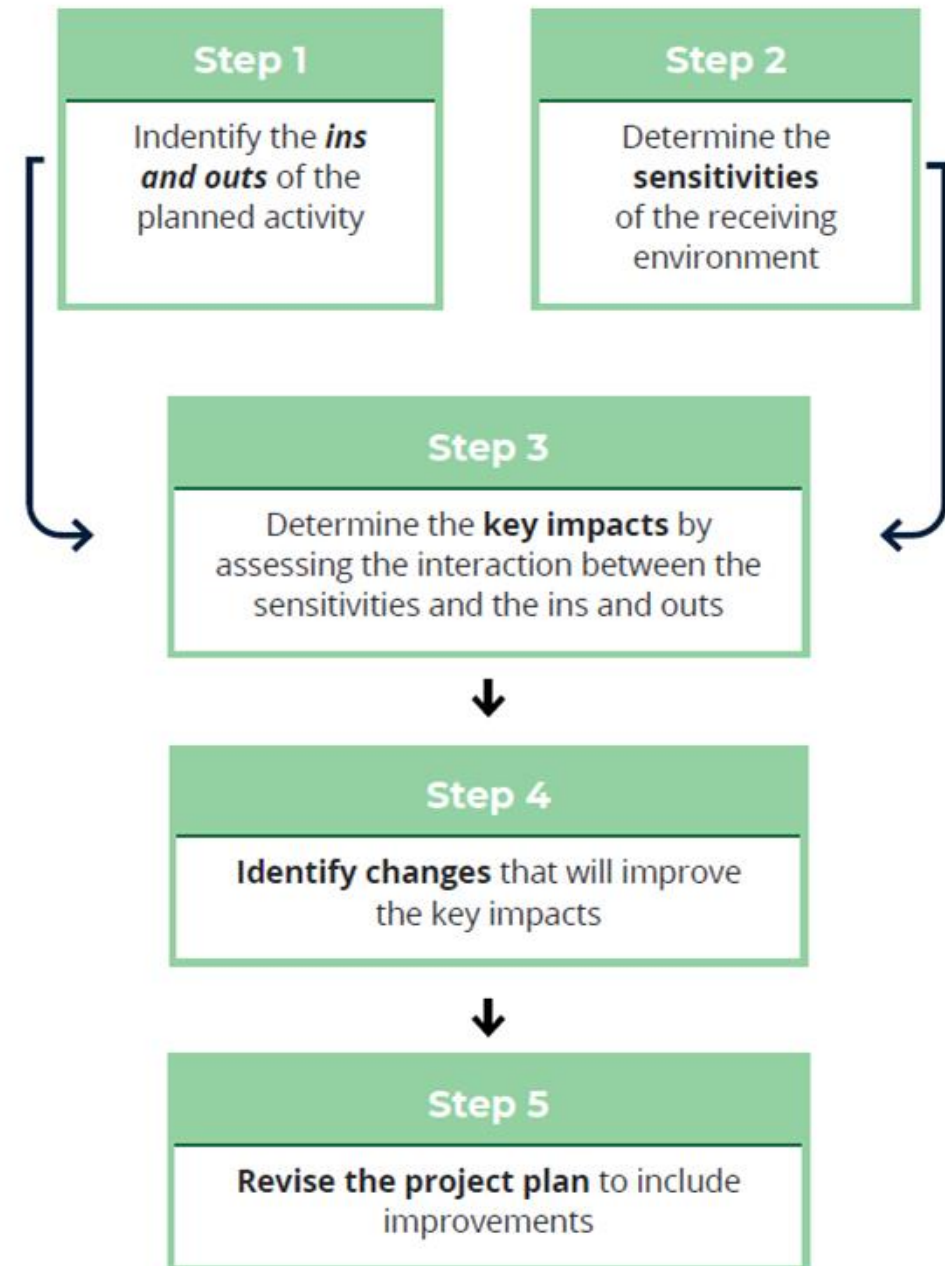
Example: Setting up container houses outside a city

- Pre-assessment and monitoring of any aquifer system that may be used
- Community education activities on water and energy conservation behaviors
- Planting and maintenance of shade trees and green shelter belts
- Use of solar panels or mains power connection for tools and equipment
- A dedicated logistics manager to coordinate travel and movements for the project
- Identify safe, legal disposal sites for all wastes and arrange waste removal.
- Inclusion of an “Environmental Responsibility” requirement in the tender documents for contractors:
 - ✓ Waste management plans
 - ✓ Use of appropriate sized vehicles
 - ✓ On-site accommodation for construction crews to reduce travel
 - ✓ Work plan including transport of staff and materials

Tools for Environmental Screening

A number of tools have been developed specifically for humanitarians to facilitate this process. **These tools follow the same basic process and ask similar questions, including basic information about the environmental context, and on how planned interventions might affect the environment.**

But it is vital to understand the process so that you can do it yourself and also understand the ideas that are behind any tool you may use.



Tools and guidance

[Green Logistics | Logistics Cluster Website \(logcluster.org\)](https://logcluster.org)



[EHA Connect - Connecting Environment and Humanitarian Action](#)

In group **Global Shelter Cluster**

Environment Community of Practice

[Environment Community of Practice | Shelter Cluster](#)

Nexus Environmental Assessment Tool

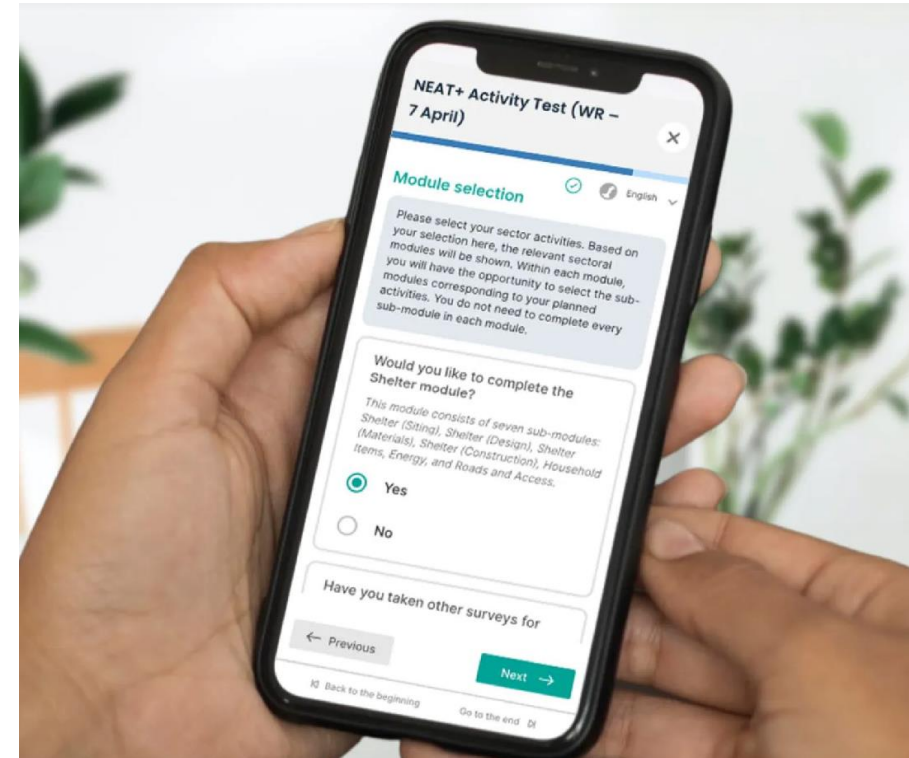
NEAT+

<https://neatplus.org/>

The NEAT+ is a free and open-source Tool specifically designed for humanitarian actors to quickly identify issues of environmental concern to make emergency and recovery interventions more sustainable.

This environmental screening tool is an App that is easy to use and allows humanitarians to understand the environmental context they are working in, and the potential environmental impacts that their planned activities may cause.

The tool provides a summary report and also suggests mitigating actions which can be integrated into projects to improve the environmental outcome.





GREEN RESPONSE: ENVIRONMENTAL QUICK GUIDE

This Training is
based on the IFRC's

Green Response:

Environmental
Quick Guide



Environmental Quick Guide



The Green Response Environmental Quick Guide is intended to be a reference guide to help improve the environmental sustainability of the projects and humanitarian operations

The quick guide is useful to all humanitarian staff and volunteers but is particularly aimed at technical project managers and those working in Disaster Risk Management. You do not need to be an environmental expert to use it.

It provides some basic ideas and examples that humanitarian practitioners, project managers and their teams can use to guide their environmental screenings and modify to suit their specific needs.

Environmental Quick Guide

The Quick Guide covers environmental screening and Green Response Essentials for all sectors and at all levels.



Environmental screening of all operations and projects

Do a simple environmental screening of all activities to identify and reduce any potential environmental impacts.



Transport and logistics

As part of preparedness activities, **anticipate future needs** to enable better pre-stocking and allow for slower more sustainable shipping methods.

Use vehicle usage **monitoring tools** and guidance to help identify areas for improvement, such as reducing fuel waste from speeding and idle time.

Consider the right vehicle for the right need, and hybrid or electric vehicles where appropriate



Cash and voucher assistance

Systematically integrate environment into CVA assessments, policies, and strategies, including access to and costs of household energy sources.

Promote sustainable consumption choices through education and awareness raising.



Organisational level

Ensure that your organisation has appointed, and supports, an environmental sustainability focal point.

Identify the main contributors to the environmental footprint of your organisation, and areas and targets for improvement.

Consider developing an Environmental Policy and including environmental sustainability in your organisation's Strategy



Energy – for facilities

Always consider the use of **renewable energy sources**, such as solar, to help meet the energy requirements of a facility.

Train staff in energy efficient behaviours, such as turning off lights and computers and appropriate use of air-conditioners and heaters.



Supporting community environmental awareness

Integrate environmental awareness activities into projects and operations wherever possible, emphasising how environmental degradation affects livelihoods, health and wellbeing.



Purchasing

Include environmental requirements as part of standard purchasing procedures, and highlight these with suppliers.

Include environmental criteria in the specifications of standard relief items, their packaging, and transportation.



Waste

Always try to **reduce the waste** that are generated by activities, particularly single-use plastics. Wherever possible reduce the size and weight of packaging, and use reusable, recyclable or biodegradable materials.

Promote finding value in waste, both in communities as part of project activities and also in facilities. As a minimum waste should be segregated into organic, recyclable, and other.

Take special care with **safe disposal** of hazardous waste, especially sanitation, medical, and electronic waste; and chemicals and pollutants.



Construction

Wherever possible **minimise waste** by repairing and upgrading existing structures and actively recycling and reusing materials, including disaster debris.

Use **sustainable construction materials**. Avoid or minimise the use of materials that are produced or extracted in environmentally harmful ways, or that cause pollution.

Design structures and shelters to maximise energy efficiency through shading and passive ventilation, and integrate rainwater/greywater capture and solar power.



Water

Wherever possible connect to and strengthen **existing water supply** and sanitation systems. If constructing WASH facilities, avoid contaminating groundwater or overusing water sources.

Use **renewable energy** like solar to power water pumps, instead of generators.

Never allow any kind of treated or un-treated sanitation waste or wastewater to enter into freshwater systems such as rivers or lakes.



Energy – households

Understand how households cook their food and what they use for lighting, and promote ways to meet these needs more sustainably as part of projects and operations, like alternative fuels or enhanced cooking stoves.



Land

Avoid erosion issues by carefully managing construction and camp projects to maintain soil and ground cover vegetation.

Always explore the potential to **integrate ecosystem protection** and restoration into activities through the use of nature-based solutions.

Carefully consider **potential environmental impacts** of activities which promote agriculture, livestock, and fishing; promote sustainable agriculture, agroforestry, and water management.





In regions Europe and Türkiye and in group Türkiye

Türkiye Earthquake 2023

Follow this response

Dashboard

Documents (112)

Events (40)

Factsheets (1)

Data Collection (1)

KEY EXTERNAL RESOURCES +

- AFAD (Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency)
 - AFAD Announcements (Turkish)
 - AFAD (English)
 - AFAD Twitter
- Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and

ENVIRONMENT

Integration of environmental considerations in shelter and settlements programming.

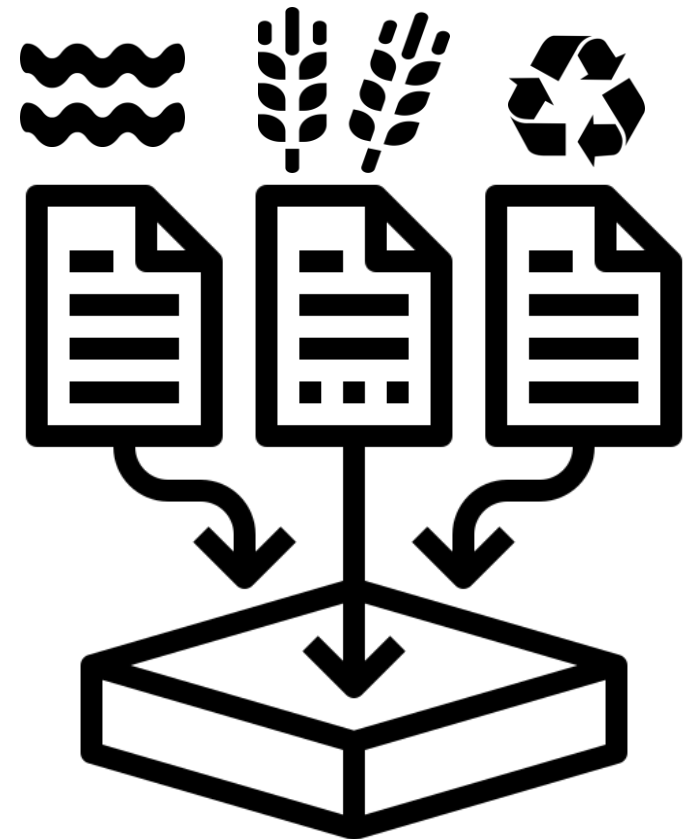
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| | <p>ENVIRONMENTAL TWG 27 Apr 2023 · English · Shelter Cluster</p> <p>Cross-Cutting Issues Inter-Cluster Early Recovery Environment</p> | | <p>20221019_GREENRESPONSI 14 Apr 2023 · English · Shelter Cluster</p> <p>Cross-Cutting Issues Environment</p> |
| | <p>DISASTER WASTE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES 3 Apr 2023 · English · Shelter Cluster</p> | | <p>QUICK GUIDE POST-DISASTER DEBRIS MANAGEMENT 3 Apr 2023 · English · Shelter Cluster</p> |

Tools are helpful but they don't work without reliable local information

- Ultimately environmental screening **depends on the local environmental and contextual information** and knowledge that humanitarian practitioners have.
- The quality of an environmental screening is greatly improved by an increased knowledge of the local environmental context.
- **Gathering environmental information as part of preparedness activities and Emergency Needs Assessments** or Vulnerability Capacity Assessments can increase the speed and quality of environmental screening, and lead to more sustainable projects.



Join the Environment Technical Working Group!

Sign up as the focal point for your organisation here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1sBgm5YUVoFn3dER1Yu8GHvAblijoFhBA2yYGRxDgfwM/edit?usp=sharing>

The first meeting is tomorrow Friday the 28th of April at 13:00 pm

The purpose of the Environmental Technical Working Group is to support the integration of environmental considerations into the humanitarian and early recovery activities related to the earthquake response. **It will provide a forum where humanitarian agencies and environmental agencies can interact regularly as peers, working together to address environmental issues.**





Innovative Green Solutions are Everywhere, in all sectors and within the operations of many organizations



We hope you enjoyed this training

Please fill out the feedback survey it is VERY SHORT

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or feedback

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adekrout@hotmail.com

Go Well!

Go Green!

