

***Prioritizing urgent action for
the most vulnerable:
Coordinated humanitarian
diplomacy / advocacy in the
climate space***

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Humanitarian sector engagement in climate policy discussions



- Some limited humanitarian engagement in Climate Policy discussions including at UNFCCC CoPs from 2001, increased in 2008
- 2008-2009 IASC Task Force on climate change
 - Report: [Addressing the humanitarian challenges of climate change](#), 2009
 - [Case Studies on Climate Change Adaptation - Addressing the Humanitarian Challenges of Climate Change](#), 2009
 - [Letter to UNFCCC in 2009](#)



- 1st Climate Science Humanitarian Dialogue - 2018
- 2019 Climate Action Summit – endeavour to develop common messages

Recent humanitarian sector collective engagement in climate policy discussions



- 2020 Feb HNPW – significant interest in climate change
- 2020-2022 IASC RG3 Subgroup on Climate Change
 - Climate Adaptation summit – [IASC video](#)
 - [Common Narrative on Climate Crisis April 2021](#)
 - [IASC Principles Statement for 2021 UNFCCC COP](#)
- Climate Charter launched May 2021, June
- Climate discussed in IASC Principals Sept 2021
- Climate made responsibility of IASC Deputies (first meeting June 2022)

PRIORITY ISSUES we have been raising



- We are already seeing the humanitarian impacts of the climate crisis.
- We know **more must be done to reduce green house gas emissions and prevent worst case scenarios**
- We also know more must be done to scale up urgent action to **support resilience and adaptation**, including **investment in DRR**
- Our role in this space is to **maintain the focus on the most vulnerable, and those being left behind**



In particular we call on governments to

- Ensure a focus on the most vulnerable and marginalized people
- Listen to communities and grassroots leaders, particularly women, youth and indigenous people, and engage them in decision-making and co-creating and owning solutions
- Invest in more effective preventative risk management capacities at the local level.
- Increase financing for climate-adaptation action that targets the most vulnerable countries and communities.

What are we being asked? Experiences from UNFCCC meetings in Bonn (June 2022)



- What is the role of humanitarians when it comes to activities to avert minimize and address loss and damage? What do you do?
- What is the scope of your work and the limitations?
- How are you funded? How much is your funding? How does it work? Where does it go?
- How would we define success when it comes to adaptation? What targets?

Past successes to build on



- Recognition of the “human dimension” of climate change, that is the impact of a changing climate that can be felt by people all around the globe, with extreme events threatening the lives and livelihoods of vulnerable people.

- Increased support for adaptation, recognizing inevitable climate impacts, impacts happening now
- Explicit mentions in different outcomes docs of: DRR, displacement, extreme events, early warning, risk and vulnerability assessments, food security etc.
- IPPC report Feb 2022 on impacts, adaptation and vulnerability formally recognizes the “humanitarian impacts of climate change”

LOSS AND DAMAGE

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**Practical
ACTION**



Outline

- What is Loss and Damage?
- How the UNFCCC process works, including the SNLD, WIM, Copenhagen, Bonn, – all new to most humanitarians
- How are negotiations being shaped? What are the challenges of these processes? Challenges for NGOs in general to engage?
- Modalities and strategies for NGOs in general to engage, what are they doing, and where do humanitarian actors come into the L&D discussions?
- Next steps? Any other points?

Existential impacts and risk: Unavoided and Unavoidable impacts

Table 5.2: Soft and hard adaptation limits in the context of 1.5°C and 2°C of global warming

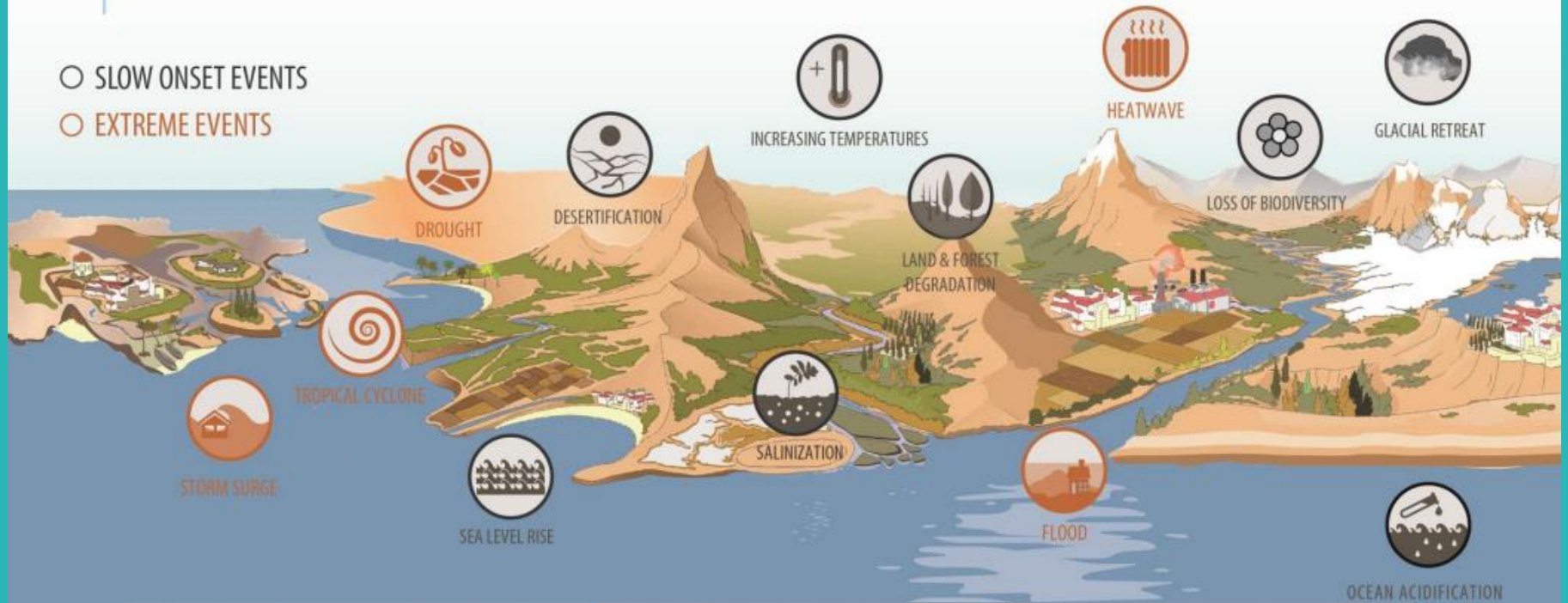
System/Region	Example	Soft Limit	Hard Limit
Coral reefs	Loss of 70-90% of tropical coral reefs by mid-century under 1.5°C scenario (total loss under 2°C scenario) (see Chapter 3, Sections 3.4.4 and 3.5.2.1, Box 3.4)		✓
Biodiversity	6% of insects, 8% of plants and 4% of vertebrates lose over 50% of the climatically determined geographic range at 1.5°C (18% of insects, 16% of plants, 8% of vertebrates at 2°C) (see Chapter 3, Section 3.4.3.3)		✓
Poverty	24-357 million people exposed to multi-sector climate risks and vulnerable to poverty at 1.5°C (86-1,220 million at 2°C) (see Section 5.2.2)	✓	
Human health	Twice as many megacities exposed to heat stress at 1.5°C compared to present, potentially exposing 350 million additional people to deadly heat wave conditions by 2050 (see Chapter 3, Section 3.4.8)	✓	✓
Coastal livelihoods	Large-scale changes in oceanic systems (temperature, acidification) inflict damage and losses to livelihoods, income, cultural identity and health for coastal-dependent communities at 1.5°C (potential higher losses at 2°C) (see Chapter 3, Sections 3.4.4, 3.4.5, 3.4.6.3, Box 3.4, Box 3.5, Cross-Chapter Box 6; Chapter 4, Section 4.3.5; Section 5.2.3)	✓	✓
Small Island Developing States	Sea level rise and increased wave run up combined with increased aridity and decreased freshwater availability at 1.5°C warming potentially leaving several atoll islands uninhabitable (see Chapter 3, Sections 3.4.3, 3.4.5, Box 3.5; Chapter 4, Cross-Chapter Box 9)		✓



OVERVIEW

○ SLOW ONSET EVENTS

○ EXTREME EVENTS



INCOME



BUSINESS
OPERATIONS



AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTION



TOURISM



INFRASTRUCTURE



PROPERTY



PHYSICAL ASSETS

INDIVIDUALS



LIFE



HEALTH



HUMAN
MOBILITY



TERRITORY



CULTURAL
HERITAGE



INDIGENOUS
KNOWLEDGE



SOCIETAL/
CULTURAL IDENTITY



BIODIVERSITY



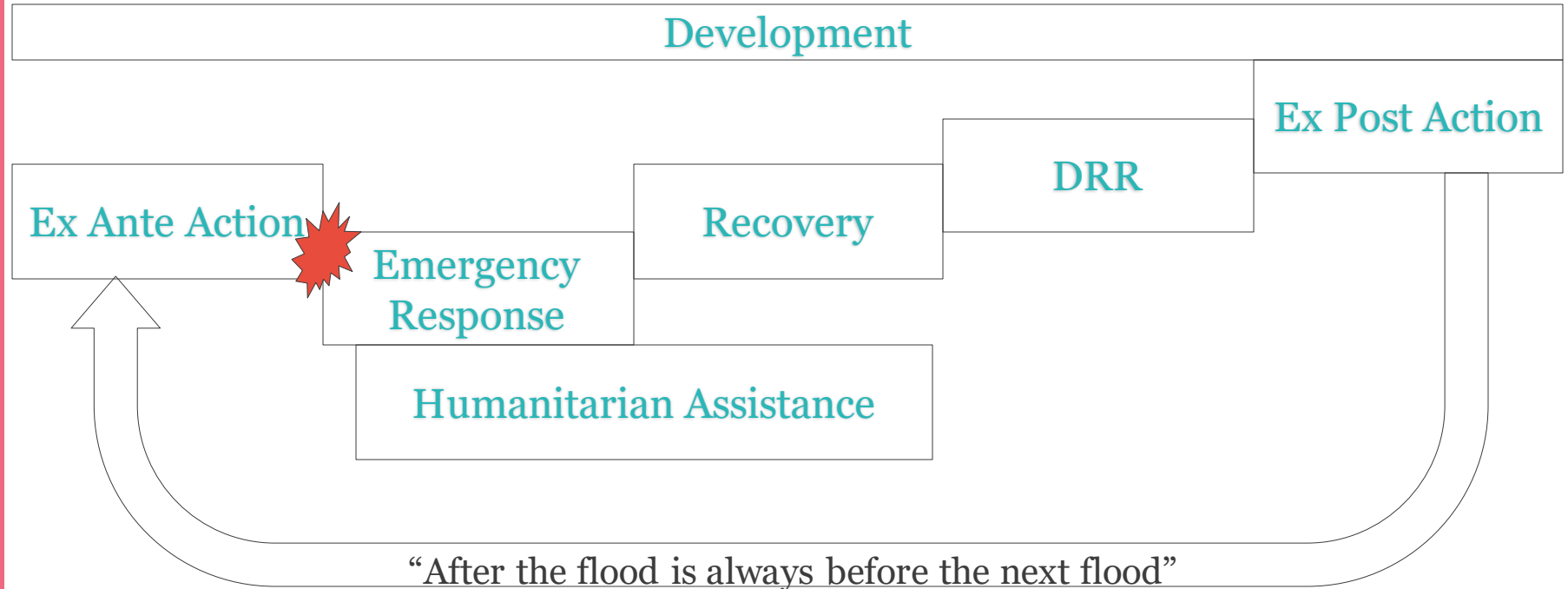
ECOSYSTEM
SERVICES



SOCIETY

ENVIRONMENT

The continuum of Loss and Damage



From **Address** Loss and Damage TO **Avert, Minimise and Address** Loss and Damage

Climate Negotiations

Inside



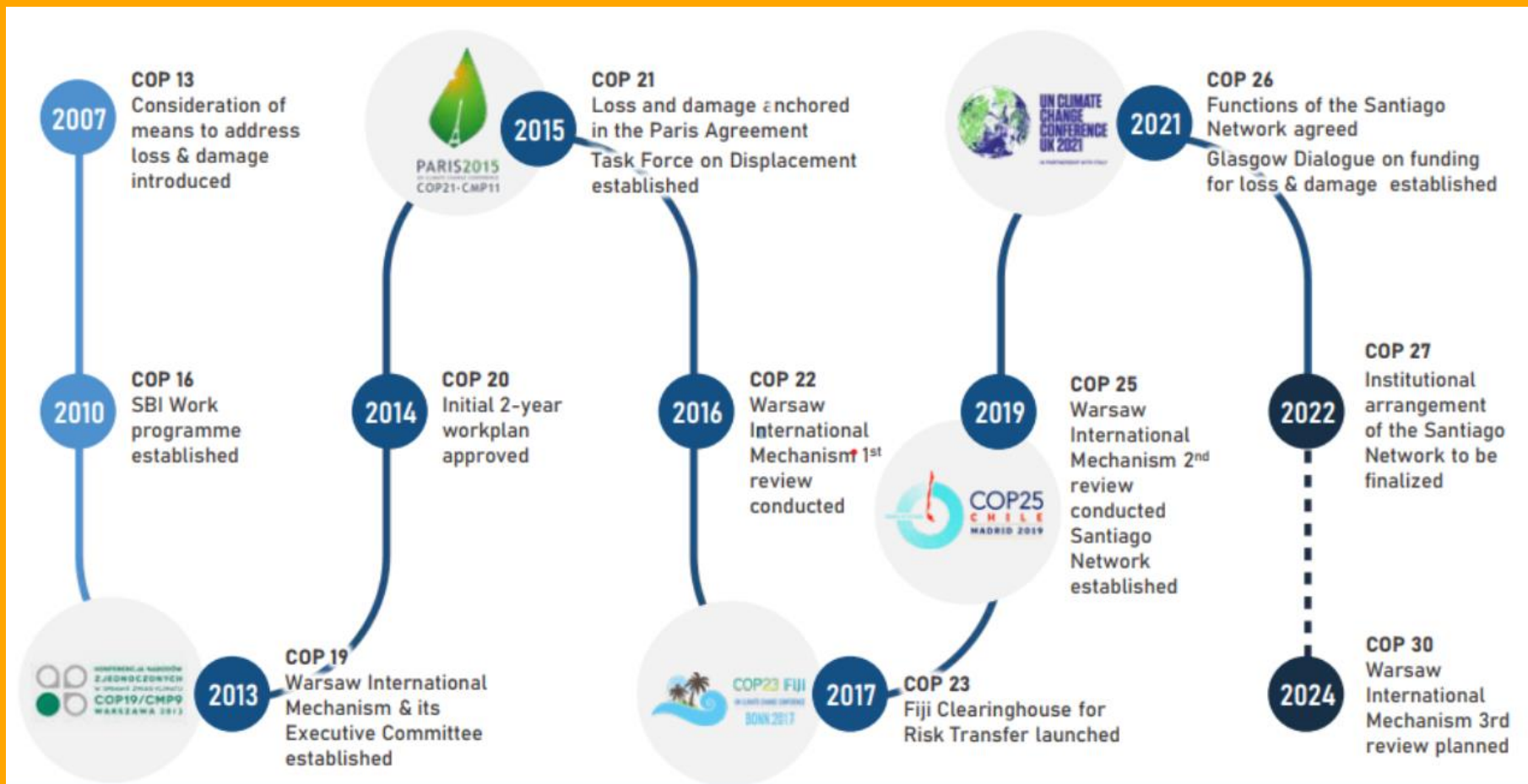
National positions



Negotiating group positions

Outside





Critical Issues

- Loss and Damage has taken time to be recognised
- Slow progress of the WIM
- Expert groups
- Review of the WIM
- Crunch moment: COP25 and COP26
- G77 and China (85%) position
- Santiago Network for Loss and Damage
- Loss and Damage Finance Facility (Glasgow Dialogue)

The challenges

Santiago Network for Loss and Damage

- Structure
- Technical Assistance
- Organisations, Bodies, Networks and Experts (OBNE)
- Focus on hosting agency
- Focus on Advisory function
- 25 Million already promised

Glasgow Dialogue

- Not an agenda item
- Connect discussions to decisions
- Beyond insurance – Global Protection Shield
- Compensation

- Governance of the WIM COP or CMA?
- Paragraph 51 of the Paris Agreement decision text

Thank
YOU

Human mobility and COP27

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30 June 2022

UNFCCC and human mobility

- 2008 COP14 /Poznan: “Floods of refugees”
- 2009 COP15 / Copenhagen:
- 2010 Cancun Adaptation Framework: 14f / human mobility
- 2015 COP21 /Paris Agreement: human mobility under Loss and Damage/Task Force on displacement established
- 2016 COP22/ Marrakesh: “displacement human face of climate change”
- 2017 COP23 /Fiji in Bonn: “the most vulnerable to impact of climate change”
- 2018 COP24 / Katowice: “from recognition to action”
- 2019 COP25 Chile→ Spain: “Task Force recommendations”
- 2021 COP26 UK /Glasgow: “underlying decisions” – side events/ messages

Human mobility = migration, displacement and planned relocation

Human mobility in the Loss and Damage discussions?

Displacement, migration and planned relocation related to climate change must be addressed across many policy frameworks and actions:

- Climate change
- Disaster risk reduction
- Development
- Humanitarian
- Migration
- Human rights ++



What can humanitarian NGOs bring?

- Technical expertise
- What does lack of action mean for people?

Alliances:

- Advisory group on Climate change and human mobility
- Platform on Disaster Displacement
- CAN (climate action network)
- Human rights organisations; development org, Climate Vulnerable Forum
→ **common messaging**

Who do we need to advocate with?

- Negotiators – member states – “blocs”
- Climate change CSOs
- Donors
- Technical experts

NRC before COP21:

“Our goal is a strong legally binding agreement on climate change **that also includes displacement and human mobility,**”

... We did not get that but we got a Task Force on displacement!



How to advocate?

- Technical expertise – text suggestions
- Formal and informal meetings
- Side events etc
- Press conference
- Demonstrations
- Media /Social media
- Joint messaging from humanitarian organisations (vs branding)
- Engaging artist to influence policy making



ENGAGING ART IN THE
GLOBAL RESPONSE TO
DISASTER DISPLACEMENT



DIS
PLACE
MENT

Uncertain Journeys



NORWEGIAN
REFUGEE COUNCIL



OXFAM

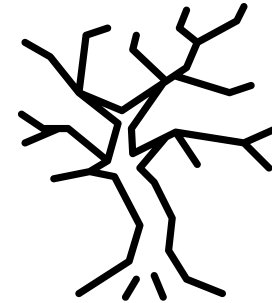
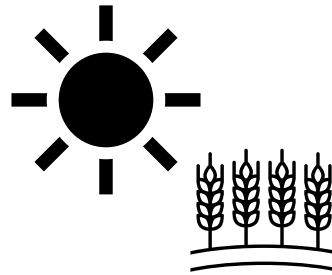
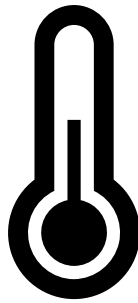
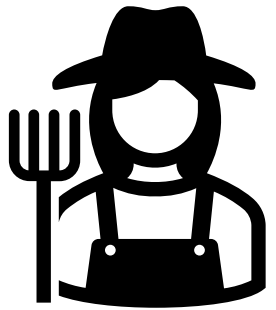


FOOTING THE BILL

Fair finance for loss and
damage in an era of
escalating climate impacts

what is loss and Damage?

- The **impacts** of climate change that **cannot**, or **have not** been, adapted to.



- **Loss** of life, livelihood, home etc.
- **Damage** to infrastructure, crop yields etc.
- **Slow** and **sudden** onset events.
- **Economic** and **non-economic**.

“addressing” as the third pillar of climate action

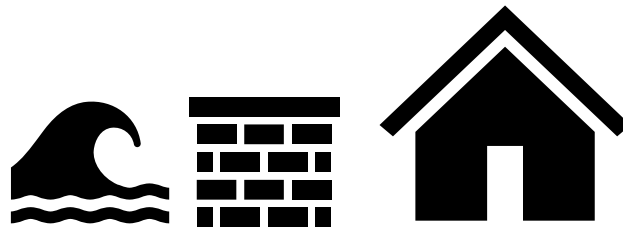
Averting

mitigation = stopping greenhouse gas emissions in the first place.

Minimising

adaptation = reducing the impacts of climate change, before they hit.

Dedicated finance provided (though not enough)



Addressing

the impacts of climate change, *after* they happen.

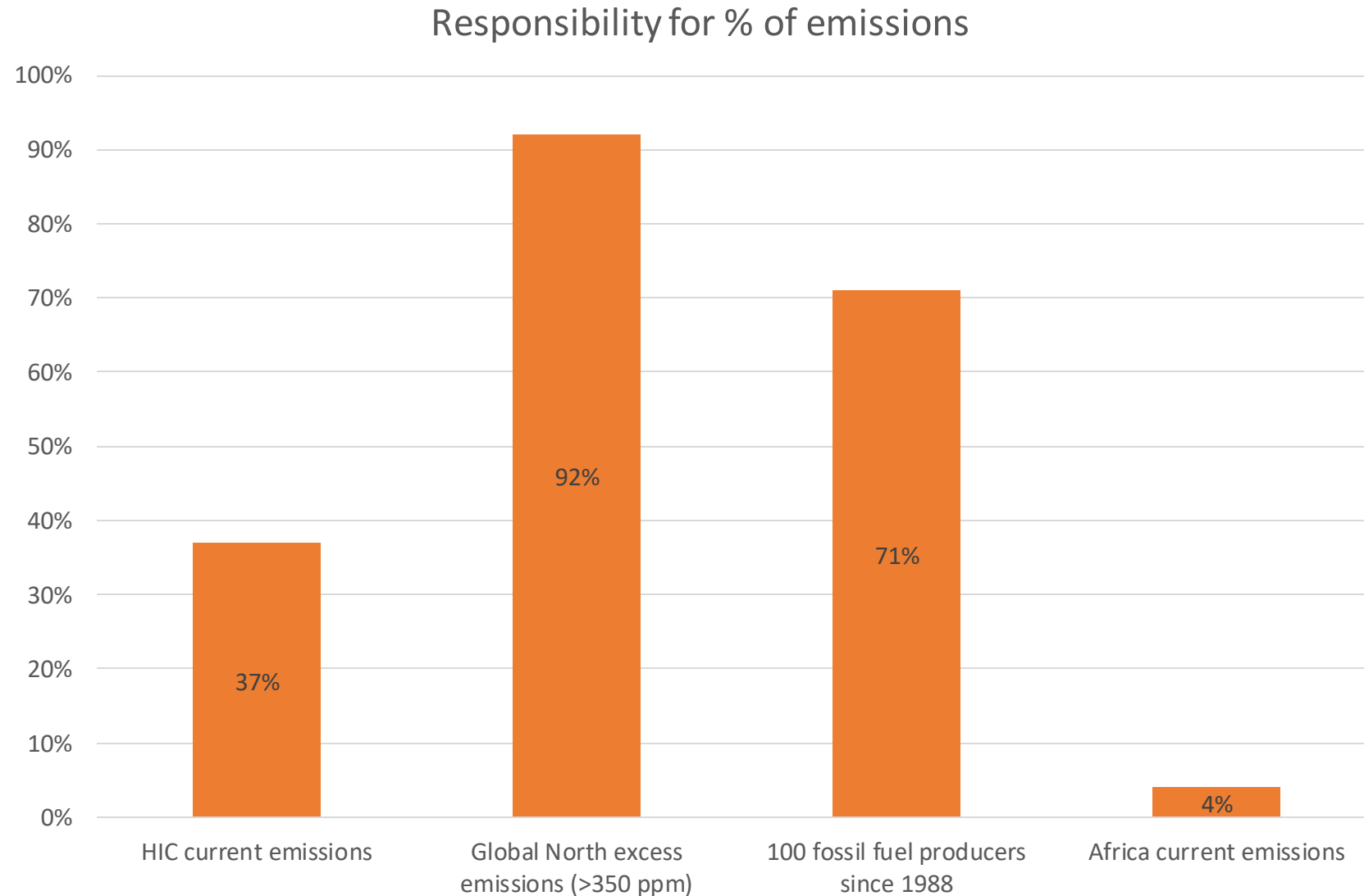
No dedicated finance



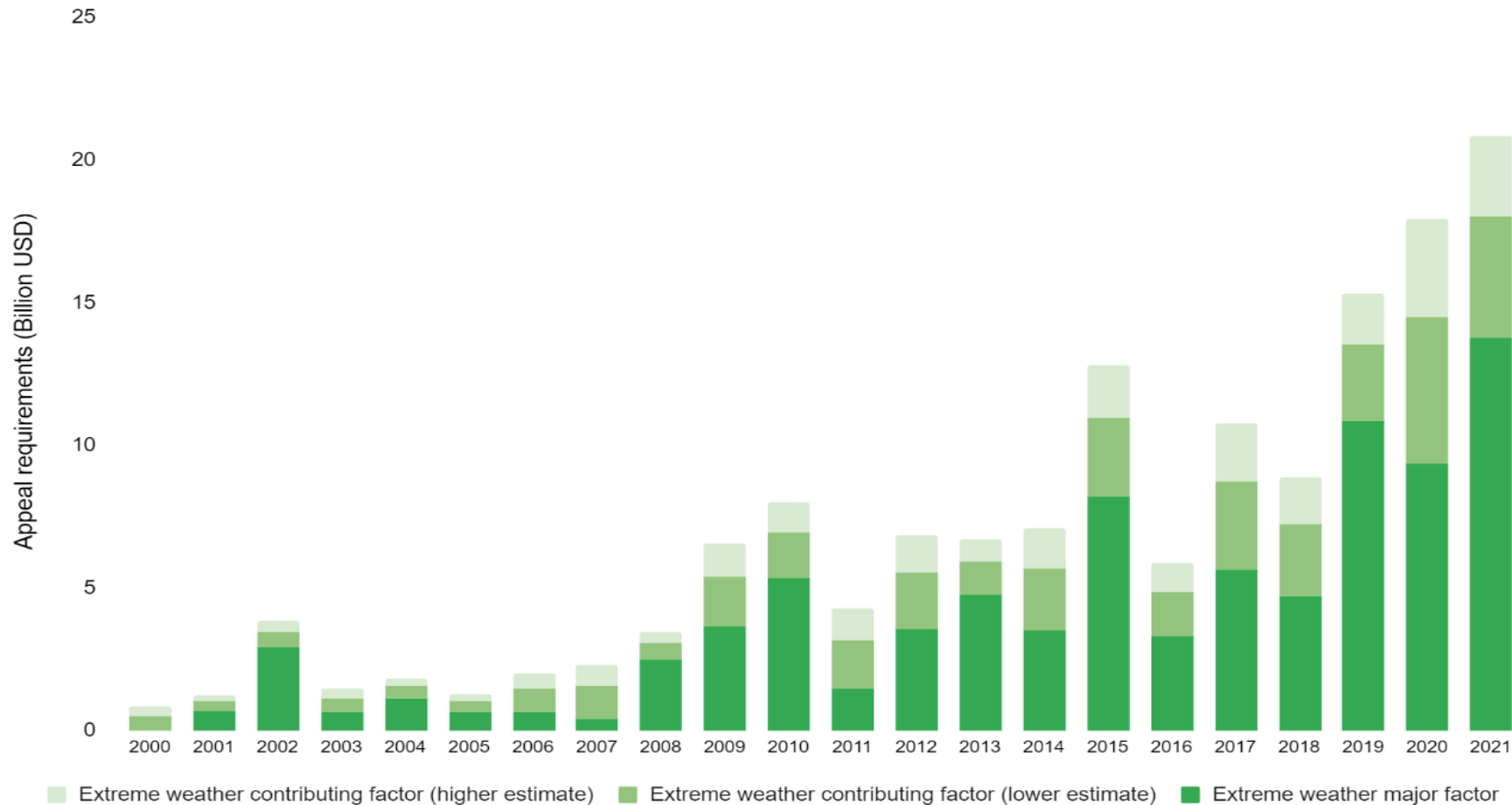
Missing piece



Who should be footing the bill for loss and damage?

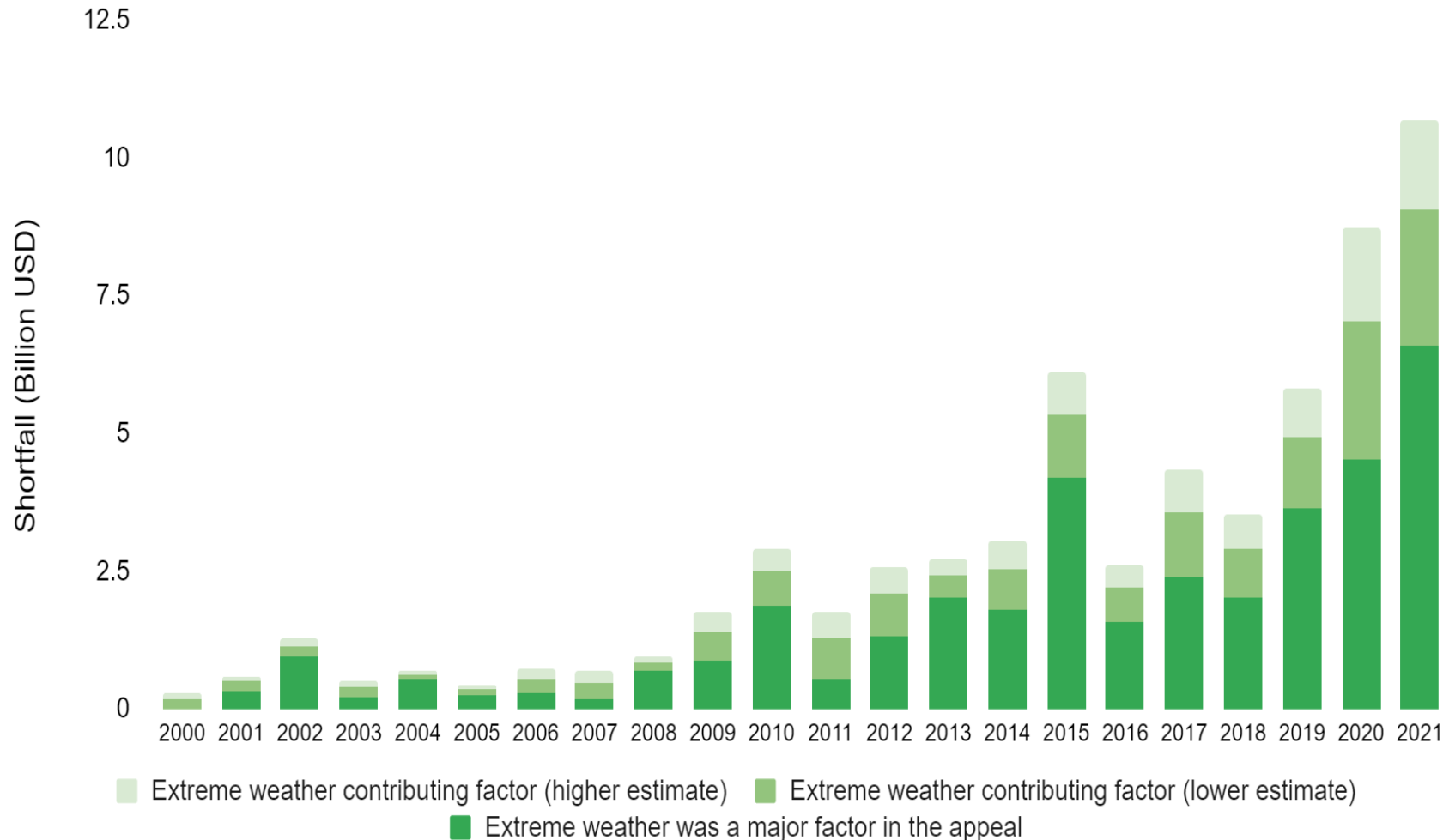


Oxfam Research: Humanitarian appeals linked to extreme weather since 2000



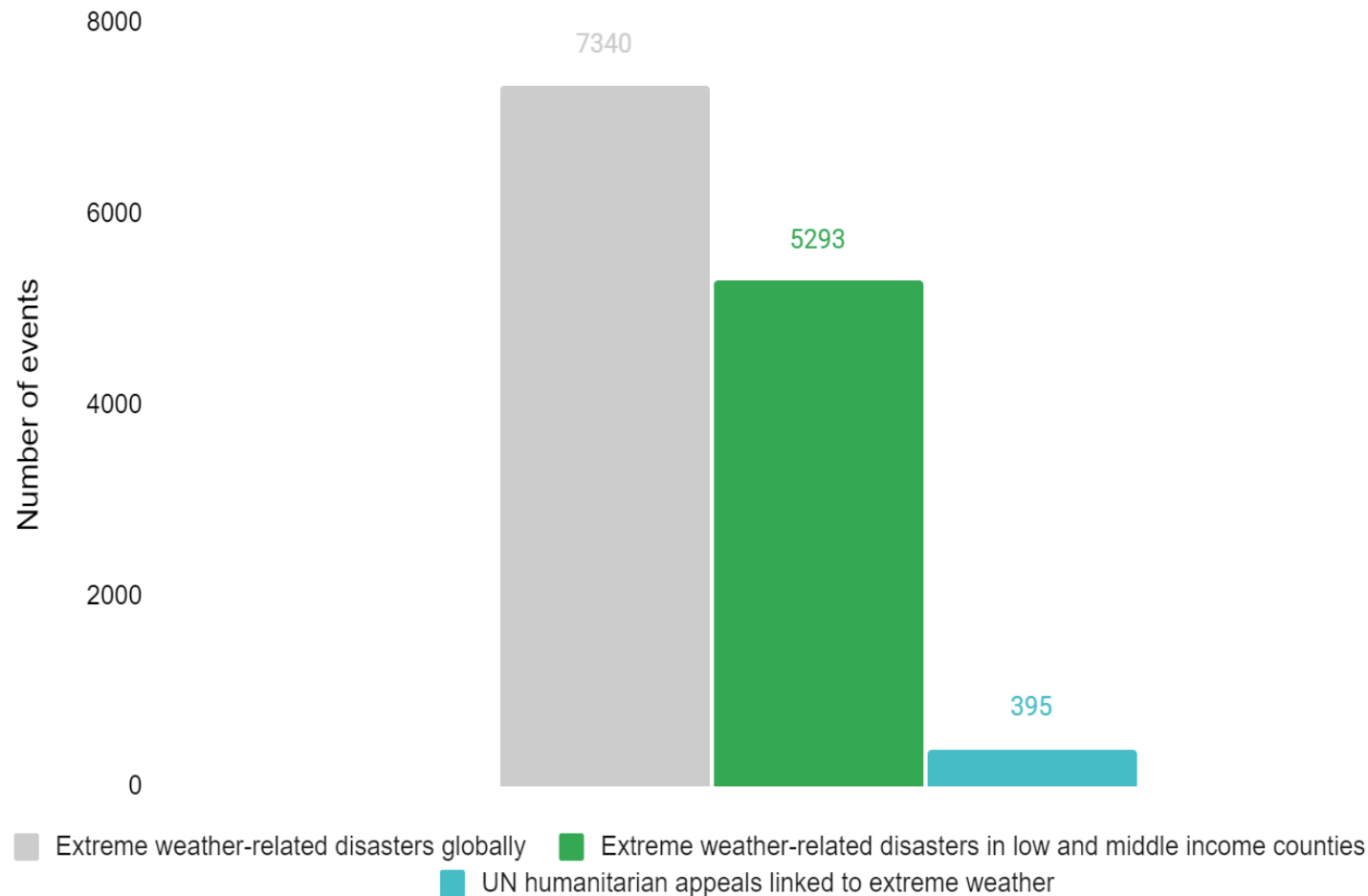
Over 800% increase in UN appeal needs for extreme weather-related emergencies over last 20 years

Oxfam Research: Humanitarian appeals linked to extreme weather since 2000



For every \$2 needed for UN weather-related appeals, donor countries are providing \$1. Up to \$33 bn not provided since 2017.

Oxfam Research: Humanitarian appeals linked to extreme weather since 2000



UN humanitarian appeals may have only covered around 7.5% of extreme-weather-related disasters in low- and middle-income countries.

The need to address the whole spectrum of Loss and damage

- In addition to **immediate and lifesaving humanitarian assistance** this includes:
 - **Rebuilding** schools, hospitals, roads and other vital infrastructure;
 - Providing **social protection** and other safety nets to help manage the risks of extreme weather events;
 - Providing finance to support the safe and dignified **movement of people** forced to migrate because to climate change;
 - Building **alternative livelihoods** (e.g., when farming is no longer a viable option due to salinization of soil);
 - Measures to address **non-economic losses**, including reparations and investment in cultural heritage.

Need dedicated finance to address loss and damage (that is new and additional) and for this to be coordinated by a loss and damage finance facility. Not a new ask!

Oxfam COP27 key asks



- New emissions targets for 2030 in line with 1.5 **AVERT!**
- Finally deliver the promised 100 billion and ensure half goes to adaptation **Minimise!**
- Agree to establish a finance facility for loss and damage **Address!**

Even if you haven't been involved in climate COPs before, their outcomes have affected you.

Table 1: Increased frequency of once-in-a-decade weather events

	Temperature above pre-industrial levels and increase in frequency of once-in-a-decade events			
	+1.1°C (today's temperature)	+1.5°C (in 6–11 years)	+2°C (in about 30 years)	+4°C (unlikely this century)
Heatwaves	2.8x	4.1x	5.6x	9.4x
Droughts	1.7x	2x	2.4x	4.1x
Extreme precipitation	1.3x	1.5x	1.7x	2.7x

Source: IPCC (2021)²⁴

- Every fraction of a degree means more extreme weather, new and compound crises and a more difficult environment for humanitarians.
- Less money for adaptation means more loss and damage that humanitarians have to respond to.
- Current projections put us on track for **2.4 degrees (if targets are met)**: Without finance to address loss and damage that is mobilised on basis of responsibility, the humanitarian system will be further overstretched and be left to foot the bill itself.

Thank you

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OXFAM

Resource Mobilisation



Responsibility for
harm caused



Capability to pay



Adequate in scale



New and additional

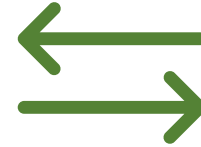


Predictable

Governance



Gender balance



Equitable representation
of low-income countries



Transparent and
accountable

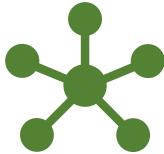
Principles of loss and damage finance



Based on need



Automatic and rapid
response



Through multiple
channels



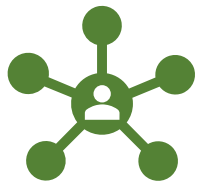
Immediate and
sustained support



Country and locally-
led



Gender equality



Accountable to
vulnerable populations

Disbursement

Implementation