

Introduction to the Charter Secretariat and Support to Signatories

Thursday, May 30, 2024: 9:00-10:00 EST / 13:00-14:00 UTC / 15:00-16:00 CEST

[Please register for the webinar here](#)

Since the launch of the [Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organisations](#) in May 2021, more than 400 humanitarian organizations from over 80 countries have signed-on. It has also garnered interest from supporters of the humanitarian system, with 13 Supporters (States) adding their signatures to the Charter. In our consultations with the Signatories, a number of challenges in implementing the commitments to the Charter were identified:

- **Gap in expertise:** Be it technical or generic, the gap in expertise that organisations and staff face when developing targets and implementing plans of action, especially when it comes to adapting humanitarian programmes to be resilient to climate impacts and environmental sustainability, was clear.
- **Gap in resources:** While there is a plethora of resources available on the Charter website and beyond, navigating a wide range of resources and understanding what would be the best resources for ones own organisation poses a challenge, especially in the busy humanitarian contexts that local and national organisations work.
- **Gap in concrete examples:** Finding best and bad practice, what to do, what not to do in certain contexts, and lessons learned that can inform ones own decision-making, design and programming processes has been a challenge.

The [Climate and Environment Charter Secretariat was established](#) with the aim to help mitigate these challenges and support signatories to put the commitments of the Charter into practice.

Objectives of the webinar:

The webinar will introduce the Secretariat team of the Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organisations and the setting-up of the Board. We hope to provide Signatories a better understanding of the Secretariat functions and how the referral hub will support them in implementing the Charter commitments, including what forms of expertise, guidance, and services can be provided through the Secretariat.

The webinar will be conducted in English and will be recorded.

| Program | |
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| Introduction to the Charter Secretariat <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Charter Secretariat Team: Introduction to the Charter Secretariat• Catherine-Lune Grayson, Head of Policy, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Charter Board Member: Overview of the governance and administration of the Secretariat and the board selection process• Azmat Khan, Chief Executive Officer, Foundation for Rural Development Pakistan, Signatory: Implementing commitments of the Charter – challenges and opportunities for advancing action on climate and environment in humanitarian contexts• Charter Secretariat Team: How can the Charter Secretariat support the implementation of the Charter commitments, planned support offerings, vision for engagement, and how signatories can contribute• Karolina Kalinowska, Policy Officer and Lead on Environment and Humanitarian Aid, DG ECHO: How are the Charter Supporters (States) contributing to the advancement of Charter commitments | 35 min |
| Q&A | 20 min |
| Next Steps and Closing, Charter Secretariat Team | 5 min |

