



Climate Change, Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights and Comprehensive Sexuality Education

**Building Resilience
for the Future**

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Climate change, SRHR and ESA - Some Context

- Droughts, floods, extreme weather events, changes in vector borne disease and other **climate impacts** are threatening life, expected to increase and **exacerbating vulnerability in ESA**. **SRHR helps build resilience to these changes**.
- Despite emitting less than 4% of global GHGs, **seven out of the ten countries most threatened by climate change are in the African continent**, including Ethiopia, Eritrea and South Sudan (African Development Bank, 2018).
- The World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) describes **changes in temperature and precipitation as among the most important indicators for the African continent due to their impacts on agriculture, but also human health** due to changing patterns of vector-borne diseases such as malaria and dengue fever (WMO, 2020).
- Air pollution and increases in heat result in **poor maternal and neonatal outcomes** (Kuehn & McCormick, 2017, Bekkar et al., 2020).
- **Gender-based violence, child marriage, and trafficking have been seen to increase** following disasters and extreme weather events as well as during times of increased stress and scarcity (Sorensen et al., 2018, McLoed, 2019).
- Bioenergy, such as firewood, is used for daily activities by approximately **80% of the African population and the household air pollution contributes to over 600,000 deaths in Africa each year**, with women, children and people with the least resources most affected. (African Development Bank, 2018; Africa Progress Panel 2015, 2015).

Why Climate Change and CSE?

East and Southern Africa is already experiencing the impacts of climate change. The rapid pace of climate change over this decade will make UNFPA's transformative results and the SDGs more difficult to achieve.

- CC impacts are expected to **worsen significantly** and **exacerbate existing inequalities**.
- **SRHR is essential** for adapting and becoming resilient to climate change.
- Young people are growing up in an **unstable and unpredictable natural environment and will inherit a number climate induced challenges**.
- Young people are our future leaders and innovators.
- **Empowering young people with information about climate change** and how it relates to SRHR better equips them to understand, engage and respond to the world around them.

Scope of work on CSE and CC



Stage 1: Review and Map

Better understand the direct and indirect pathways of climate change impact on SRHR to enable programme responses.

- Review existing programmes worldwide that integrated aspects of SRHR and CC to
- Review existing young people programming on CSE and CC and other related training as required

Stage 2: Adapt and Develop

Develop ways to build on UNFPA's work around SRHR, CSE and climate change

- 'In-text' edits to the existing CSE manual
- Development of 'pop out boxes' on areas of intersection between CSE and CC
- Develop a stand alone module on CSE and CC
- Develop a training of the trainers guide

Stage 3: Reflect and Finalise

Programmatic Lessons Learned and Recommendations

- Write a report on the findings of the review and content development; make programmatic recommendations for ESA
- Develop a plan for online dissemination of the training

SRHR and Climate Change Programmatic Review



Aim: To review programmes that integrate climate change and delivery of SRHR programme and identify best practices

- Reviewed 51 programmes that combine aspects of CC / SRHR / gender from around the world
- Mapped for:
 - Organisation
 - Funder
 - Location
 - Type of Programme
 - Key words
 - Rationale
 - Implicit Theory of Change
 - Activities
 - Outcomes
 - Environmental / climate change components
 - SRHR components
 - Replicability



Integration of Climate content into CSE - Review



Aim: To identify elements of CSE with particular bearing on climate change that could be integrated into climate change education and training

- There are limited resources that bring together SRHR and Climate change
- No mainstream CSE curriculum includes integrated information on climate change including the UN Technical Guidance on CSE
- Some manuals about environmental sustainability included aspects of SRHR but were focused on fertility- Blue Ventures, GoJoven
- A desk review of existing Climate Change curriculum / training showed no integration of SRHR. Some included information of the interlinkages between climate change and health, or climate change and gender. Most focused on the science of climate change and encouraging action around climate change



UNFPA ESARO's CSE for out-of-school Young People in East and Southern Africa

Key Activities for integrating CC into CSE:

- Climate relevant content has been added to the CSE manual where appropriate in the form of in-text edits and 'pop out' boxes
- Key messaging for young people on the intersections between SRHR and CC
- A standalone module on CC has been developed
- Training of the trainers guide
- Plans for online delivery

Lessons Learned & Challenges

- Climate change is a big/broad topic with different levels. Adapting the content to the individual level and linking it to CSE was not always straightforward.
- Most of the existing guidance and suggested ‘individual actions’ (young) people can take on climate change is developed for high resource settings (cycling, eating less meat, recycling etc.)
- Climate change is making things harder and exacerbates inequalities. On the whole it is negative. Balancing the content with empowering messages therefore is a challenge.
- Assessing the right/adequate level of information for comprehension and empowerment, especially for out of school young people.

Next steps

Finalise, Test, Roll-out

Dedicated AMAZE video forthcoming

Q & A





Thank you