

Rapporteurs' Notes

2nd International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding
1 Feb to 4 Feb 2022

Instructions

This document is intended to facilitate note taking for the sessions you are attending at the **2nd International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding**, which takes place virtually from 1 February to 4 February. As a note-taker, you will complete the following report which is a great way for us to document what was accomplished during the sessions. This will then be compiled into a post conference report where your contribution will be acknowledged.

A basic template for note taking has been established to facilitate the work of the rapporteur. The template is in two parts, *background information* and *notes*. The notes are divided into three main sections and a space to take notes:

- Key Takeaways – **key messages, outcomes or takeaways** from the session. These are what you would summarize the session to, based on the entire discussion. They will make up the majority of what goes into the final conference report, so be sure to be complete and accurate for each takeaway.
- Notable Quotes (1 to 2, maybe 3) – If the participants said something interesting, you can quote it. Feel free to record the person who said it for context, we will get their permission if we end up using it in the final report. These quotes should represent a **prominent or powerful phrase from the session**.
- Raw Notes (optional) – If you need a place to take raw notes you can use this space to take notes during the discussion. The lead rapporteur may reference this as well for additional context when writing the final report.

Write-ups due: **Friday February 11** (although we recommend doing this immediately after the session, while everything is fresh in your mind). **If possible, please share the draft summary with the chair and speakers in advance of February 11 so they can confirm the accuracy of the summary.**

Please upload the final summary to [this folder](#).

SUMMARY:

A. Background Information (Note: you can copy this information from the agenda page on the website)

Rapporteur(s): Fabian Hofmann

Session Title: Building Peace through Cooperative, Inclusive, and Sustainable “Climate-Security” Practices

Abstract of the session (copied from website): Climate-security risks, such as extreme weather events, environmental degradation, and resource scarcities, can increase the likelihood of violent conflict, humanitarian crises, forced displacement and migration, as well as open space for environmental crimes and radicalization. However, they also present opportunities for state and non-state actors to develop cooperative, inclusive, and sustainable “climate-security” practices, thereby contributing to environmental peacebuilding. This panel highlights opportunities for environmental peacebuilding through tackling climate security risks. Specifically, the panel discusses the role of regional water cooperation, peace operations, militaries and security sector governance in addressing climate-security risks and presents best practices and lessons learned.

Highlight relevant theme(s): Climate Change

B. Important Points (ideally, no more than 1 page)

Key Takeaways (suggest 2-5; interesting observations; evidence of what works/does not work; potential/emerging solutions; considerations; etc.; NOTE: Be careful about over-emphasizing challenges and problems; these are generally well known)	To better analyze climate-security risks, applied research which combines quantitative data with inclusive qualitative data is necessary. For example, satellite images have countered common misconceptions of the shrinking of Lake Chad, while field research and focus groups have provided a deeper understanding of farmer vs. herder conflicts in Mali. Adelphi’s Weathering Risk project is putting these theoretical considerations into practice.
	EcoPeace Middle East is working with governments in the region to implement regional water cooperation projects in response to the climate crisis and widespread water scarcity. The cooperation over the Jordan river and projects aimed at increasing Palestinians’ water resilience are successful examples of climate adaptation measures and environmental peacebuilding practices. Desalination powered by green energy could prove to be the Levant’s “coal and steel” in the coming low carbon industrial revolution.
	Owing to institutional complexities, upscaling environmental peacebuilding pilots takes time, as working with nature as a partner requires a fundamental system overhaul. Once institutions adopt an environmental peacebuilding agenda, programmes need to be operationalized and translated for people on the ground, the right

	<p>research needs to be funded, cross-cutting collaboration needs to be instated and staff needs to be adequately trained.</p> <p>Addressing the environmental root causes of armed conflicts opens up new entry points for mediation and peace dialogues, as in some cases the management of shared resources is less politicized than other issue areas. The common threat climate change poses provides a rallying point and can serve as a common enemy for opposing parties to unite against. The Planetary Security Initiative collects and evaluates climate security practices, providing insights from and for practitioners.</p> <p>Good security sector governance can contribute to reduce the impact of climate change on security, by best using the security sector’s capabilities of adaptation and response and refraining from serving as an aggravating factor. New climate-security practices emerge from recent institutional and adaptational pressures the sector is facing. New projects on conflict prevention and environmental peacebuilding are being developed, focusing, among others, on the nexus between climate change, women, and peace, as well as seeking to raise awareness of the role of the security sector in environmental protection and climate change within and across the sector, including the need to tackle its own ecological footprint and integrate climate-related security risks in its assessment and planning. Such initiatives have already been launched within multilateral frameworks (e.g., NATO, EDA etc.) and on national level.</p>
<p>Recommendations for action (if any)</p>	<p>Environmental peacebuilding is a cross-cutting endeavor, which is why it must bridge the siloes of the peacebuilding and climate adaptation community by creating unified ToCs.</p> <p>Furthermore, tools and practices that are very theoretical and isolated at the moment need to be integrated and operationalized, for which strategic communication and story-telling is key. A clear terminology and a clear overview of best practices allow for better translation from observations on the ground to the policy level.</p> <p>Climate-security practices and environmental peacebuilding must happen at the regional, in addition to the (sub-)national level, for which transboundary cooperation is key. In addition, social cohesion must be strengthened by embedding adaptation and mitigation measures in local and global ecosystems and rebuilding the links between governments and marginalized communities. Security sector actors must enhance collaboration and build trust with local communities, contributing to social cohesion and state resilience through faire and adequate security provision. The military component and the SSR mandate of peace operations and special political missions must become aware of and connected to missions` activities on climate change and security to enhance synergies and reduce eventual negative impacts of the security</p>

	<p>sector on environmental peacebuilding. Core support, as opposed to short-time funding allows for longer and more flexible engagement, which is crucial for effective environmental peacebuilding interventions.</p>
<p>Notable Quotes (if there are any; also please note the speaker of the quote)</p>	<p></p>
<p>Other (any other points you would like to raise)</p>	<p></p>
<p>Raw Notes (optional; could be pasted here; if not, then indicate where)</p>	<p></p>