

# Environmental Emergencies Centre: A guide to accessing the online courses

[www.learning.eecentre.org](http://www.learning.eecentre.org)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Environmental Emergencies Centre (EEC). At the top, there are logos for UN environment and OCHA, followed by the text "Environmental Emergencies Centre" and the tagline "Supporting preparedness for environmental emergencies". Below this is a navigation menu with links for Home, About EEC, Library, Partnerships, Training, Events, and Contact Us, along with a search bar. The main banner features a photograph of people working on a pile of rubble, with the text "Highlights" and a sub-headline: "Try the EEC eLearning module 'Disaster Waste Management: best practices and tools', now available in French!". Below the banner, there are three main sections: 1) A blue box with text stating "The Environmental Emergencies Centre seeks to build the capacity of high-risk low and middle-income countries to respond to environmental emergencies by strengthening their own mechanisms and drawing on external resources and services." with a "Know more" button. 2) A "Latest News" section with a "View All" button, containing two news items: "New language available for the Industrial Accident..." and "Launch of the Words into Action Guide! Launch of the Words into Action Guide on Man-Made and [...]". 3) A "Reliefweb Newsfeed" section with two news items: "India: Situation Report -1: Floods and Landslides in North East India (16th June, 2017)" and "Spain: Crisis de refugiados en Europa: Informe de Situación nº 18, actualización - 22 de mayo de 2017".

## Table of Contents

Introduction to the new Environmental Emergencies Centre (EEC).....	3
Software and hardware requirements for the online courses .....	4
Logging into the EEC.....	5
Creating your personal profile .....	6
Choosing the language of the platform .....	7
Choosing your online course .....	8
Entering your online course .....	9
Other information about taking the courses .....	10
Evaluation and certification.....	11
The Environmental Emergencies Centre LinkedIn Discussion Forum .....	12
Interested in other areas of the EEC?.....	14

## Introduction to the new Environmental Emergencies Centre (EEC)

The Environmental Emergencies Centre (EEC) is an online knowledge and learning hub designed primarily to provide national responders with a one-stop shop for all information relevant to the preparedness, response and recovery stages of an environmental emergency. It contributes to awareness-raising and capacity development and makes expertise in the field of environmental emergency response widely available at no cost to the user. The new Centre provides a more user-friendly access to reports, tools, online learnings and guidelines for disaster responders. The EEC is hosted by the UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit (JEU).

A 2017 platform revision was kindly supported by UN Environment, the Government of Norway and the Government of Sweden. The new EEC website has been upgraded to include the following content:

- An e-library database where guidelines, policies, tools and reports will be regularly posted,
- A list of EEC networks and partners, who work to raise awareness of the potential risks and impacts of environmental emergencies,
- Information on the two flagship events of the JEU: the Environment and Emergencies Forum and the Green Star Awards.

In addition, the EEC's e-Learning program has been upgraded. It now includes the five following courses:

- **Beyond Response:** Better Preparedness for Environmental Emergencies – version 2.0 (English, French, Spanish and Arabic)
- **Introduction to the Flash Environmental Assessment Tool:** FEAT – version 2.0 (English)
- **Environment in Humanitarian Action** (English, French, Spanish, Russian)
- **Introduction to Industrial Accidents:** Prevention, Preparedness and Response (English, French, Spanish, Russian, Mandarin)
- **Disaster Waste Management:** Best Practices and Tools (English, French, Spanish, Russian)

This step-by-step guide will walk users of the platform through the process of taking one of the five courses on the new and improved EEC.

## Software and hardware requirements for the online courses



You will need the Adobe Flash Player to view the interactive lessons.

Adobe Flash Player can be downloaded [here](#).



You will need the Adobe Acrobat reader to view the PDF files.

Adobe Acrobat can be downloaded [here](#).



You will need Microsoft Office (Windows or Apple version) or Open Office.

Open Office can be downloaded [here](#).



For best user experience, it is suggested that you use Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge.

Please do not use Safari. Also, the platform is not accessible from handheld devices.



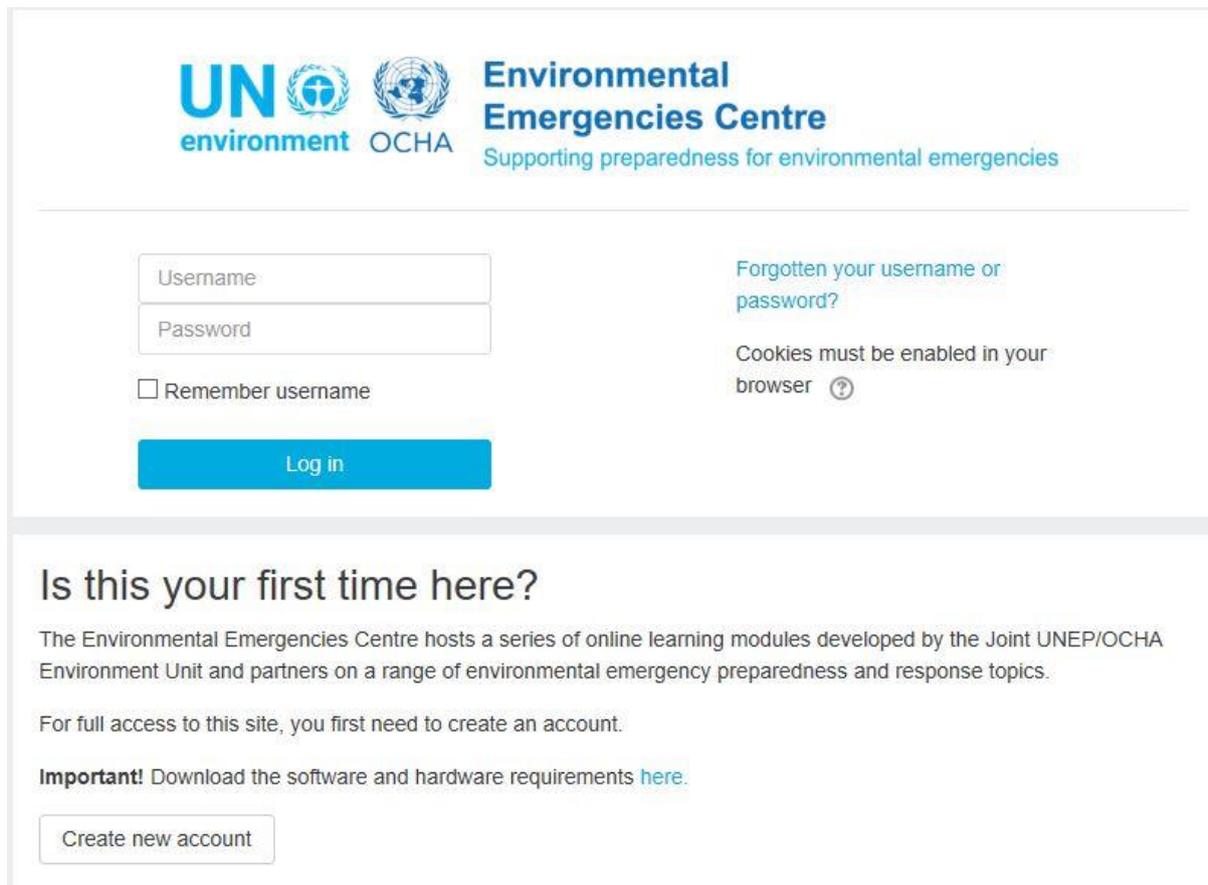
Your computer should have at least 512 MB of RAM memory and 1 GB of available disk space if you would like to download the training modules.



Cookies must be enabled for this site. JavaScript and pop-ups must also be enabled.

## Logging into the EEC

You can access the EEC training page simply by typing <http://learning.eecentre.org/>

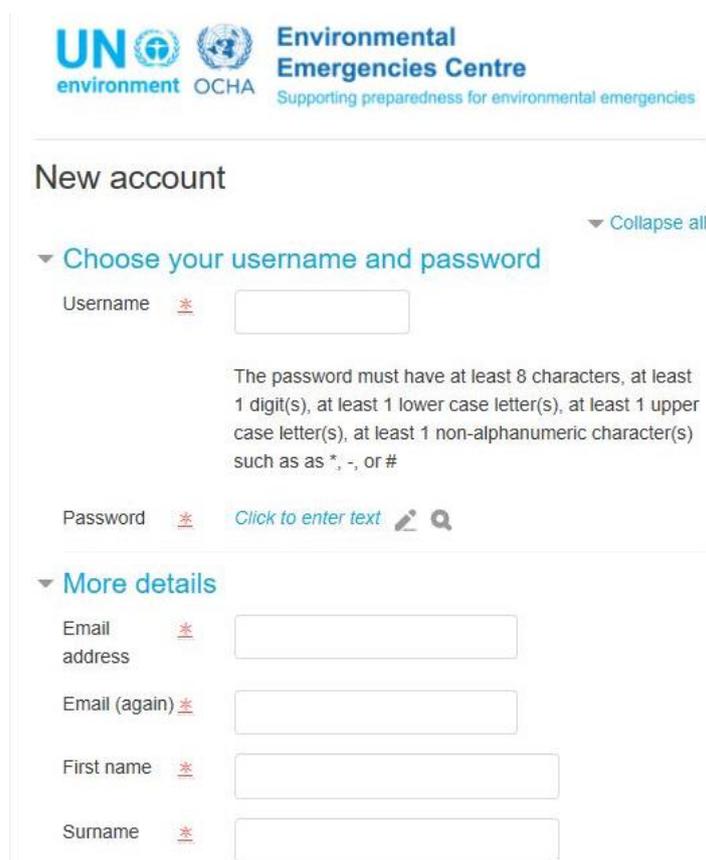


The screenshot shows the login interface for the Environmental Emergencies Centre. At the top left, there are logos for UN environment, OCHA, and the Environmental Emergencies Centre. The EEC logo includes the text "Environmental Emergencies Centre" and the tagline "Supporting preparedness for environmental emergencies". Below the logos, there are two input fields: "Username" and "Password". To the right of these fields, there is a link "Forgotten your username or password?". Below the "Username" field, there is a checkbox labeled "Remember username". A blue "Log in" button is positioned below the "Password" field. To the right of the "Log in" button, there is a message: "Cookies must be enabled in your browser" with a question mark icon. Below the login section, there is a heading "Is this your first time here?". Underneath, there is a paragraph: "The Environmental Emergencies Centre hosts a series of online learning modules developed by the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit and partners on a range of environmental emergency preparedness and response topics." Below this paragraph, there is another paragraph: "For full access to this site, you first need to create an account." Below that, there is a bolded section: "Important! Download the software and hardware requirements [here](#)." At the bottom of this section, there is a button labeled "Create new account".

If you have used the EEC before, login using your existing username and password. If you have not visited the EEC before, please follow the instructions on the next page of this guide to create an account.

## Creating your personal profile

If you have not visited the EEC before, you will need to create an account:



The screenshot shows the 'New account' registration page for the Environmental Emergencies Centre (EEC). At the top, there are logos for UN environment, OCHA, and the EEC, with the tagline 'Supporting preparedness for environmental emergencies'. The page title is 'New account' with a 'Collapse all' link. The first section is 'Choose your username and password', which includes a 'Username' field with a red asterisk, a password field with a red asterisk, and a 'Click to enter text' link. Below the password field, there is a password requirement note: 'The password must have at least 8 characters, at least 1 digit(s), at least 1 lower case letter(s), at least 1 upper case letter(s), at least 1 non-alphanumeric character(s) such as as \*, -, or #'. The second section is 'More details', which includes fields for 'Email address', 'Email (again)', 'First name', and 'Surname', each with a red asterisk.

When users register for the EEC, they are required to create a username and password and they are required to enter an email address, first and last name, country and the organization they work in. We also ask users to provide additional optional personal information such as position, education, institution and gender. The user may opt out of these questions by not entering data when asked. **A confirmation link will be sent to the user's e-mail address.**

Personal information is only collected for statistical purposes, to conduct research on the users' profiles and the geographical usage of the site. The Joint Environment Unit collects and logs aggregate user statistics and website traffic, such information includes website traffic statistics, date and time of visits, browser type used to access the EEC site, frequency of visits and to which pages, etc. We use this information to improve the services delivered to users, to track and diagnose performance problems and administer the website. The EEC may disclose aggregated user statistics in order to describe our services to prospective partners, and affiliates, but the Joint Environment Unit will never disclose such data on an individual or identifiable basis to third parties.

## Choosing the language of the platform

The screenshot displays the EEC Learning Centre interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following elements: a hamburger menu icon, the text "EEC Learning Centre", "ONLINE COURSES", "ABOUT EEC", and "ENGLISH (EN)". A dropdown menu is open under "ENGLISH (EN)", listing four language options: "English (en)", "Español - Internacional (es)", "Français (fr)", and "Русский (ru)".

The main content area is divided into three columns:

- Left Column (Navigation):** A vertical list of links: Home, Dashboard, Calendar, Private files, My courses (with a sub-link "Beyond Response (English)"), and Site administration.
- Center Column (Course Cards):** A list of course cards, each with a thumbnail image and a title:
  - Thumbnail: Flooded area with people. Title: "Beyond Response: Better Preparedness for Environmental Emergencies".
  - Thumbnail: Person in a field. Title: "Introduction to the Flash Environmental Assessment Tool: FEAT".
  - Thumbnail: People in a field. Title: "Environment in Humanitarian Action".
  - Thumbnail: Industrial accident scene. Title: "Introduction to Industrial Accidents: Prevention, Preparedness and Response".
  - Thumbnail: Disaster waste management. Title: "Disaster Waste Management: Best Practices and Tools".
- Right Column (User Tools):** Three sections:
  - MAIN MENU:** Includes links for "Discussion Forum", "Glossary", "Site Requirements", and "Contact JEU".
  - PEOPLE:** Includes a link for "Participants".
  - CONFIGURABLE REPORTS:** Includes links for "All Users - Completed Course Evaluation" and "Manage reports".

Once you have signed into the EEC, you have the ability to change the language of the EEC platform. Please click on the language on the top bar menu. You can change the platform to four languages: English, Spanish, French and Russian.

## Choosing your online course

You will be able to choose from five different online courses. Please click on the name of one of the five options to proceed. For any future training, you will not have to repeat the registration process. Just keep a record of your username and password, and you will be able to login directly to this training page.



[Beyond Response: Better Preparedness for Environmental Emergencies](#)



[Introduction to the Flash Environmental Assessment Tool: FEAT](#)



[Environment in Humanitarian Action](#)



[Introduction to Industrial Accidents: Prevention, Preparedness and Response](#)



[Disaster Waste Management: Best Practices and Tools](#)

## Entering your online course

First, choose the language of your course:

### Environment in Humanitarian Action



The course provides humanitarian actors with information on how to effectively integrate environmental issues into humanitarian response and early recovery strategies. It highlights the key opportunities, misconceptions and challenges for mainstreaming environmental issues into humanitarian action.

The course is available in English, French, Spanish and Russian. Please allow at least two hours for completion. If you have any questions and/or problems accessing the course, please contact us at [ochaunep@un.org](mailto:ochaunep@un.org).

  [EHA \(English\)](#)

 [EHA \(Français\)](#) 

 [EHA \(Español\)](#) 

 [EHA \(Russian\)](#) 

Next, review the objectives of the course and then enter the course by clicking on “eLearning module” on the course summary page:

## EHA (English)

[Home](#) / [My courses](#) / [EHA \(English\)](#)

### Course Summary

Your progress 

#### OBJECTIVES

After completing this course, participants will have

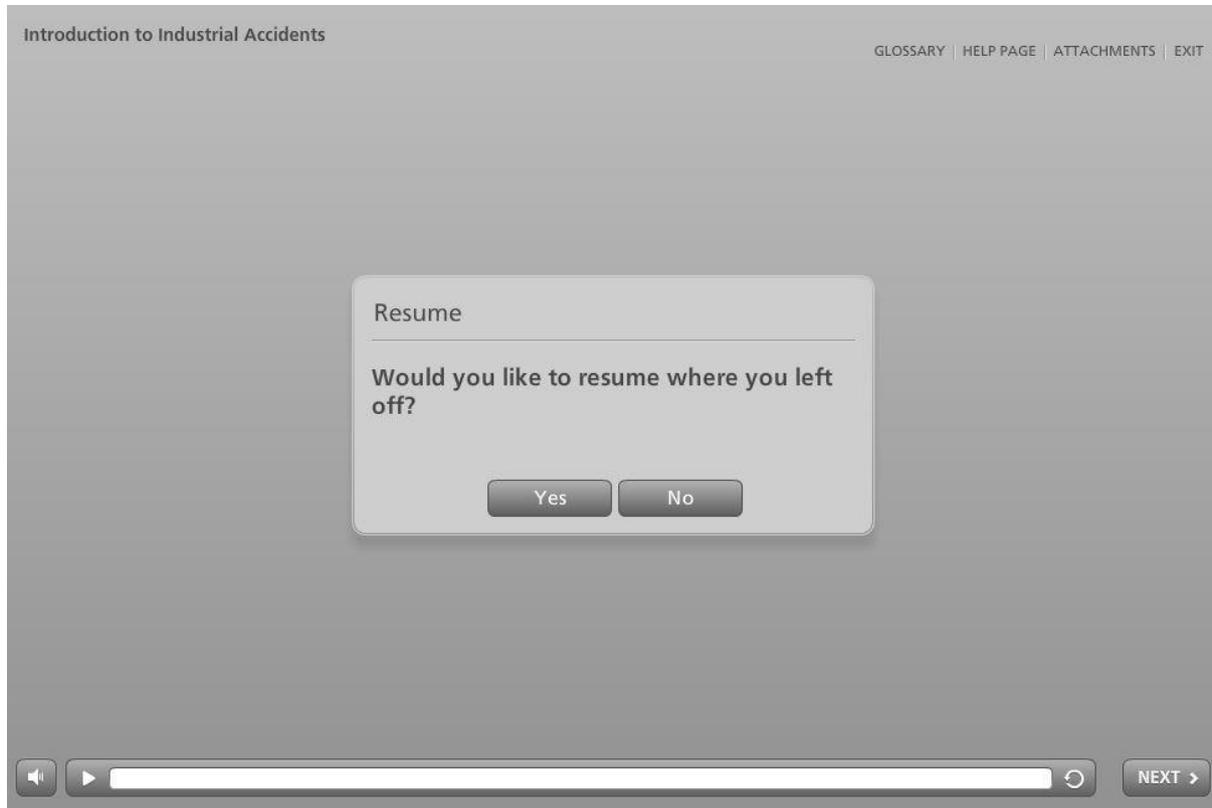
- Improved awareness of the role the environment plays in humanitarian work.
- A better understanding of the outcomes of aid by anticipating and addressing potential negative impacts.
- Increased awareness on why it is imperative to integrate key environmental concerns into humanitarian activities.
- A greater familiarity with the related tools and trainings (EA, REA, ENA, EIA, MIRA).

#### HOW TO TAKE THIS COURSE

- 
- [eLearning module](#) - You can stop at any time, close it and resume later.
  - Course evaluation - Once you successfully finish the [eLearning module](#), complete the Course evaluation.
  - Certificate of completion - Once you have completed the previous steps, you will be able to download your Certificate of completion as a PDF file.

## Other information about taking the courses

Generally, the courses take at least two or three hours to complete. You do not need to complete the course in one sitting. If you leave the course, you are able to log back in and resume from where you left off:



If you need assistance, a glossary and help page are available in the top-right section of the module. If you are experiencing continued difficulties, please contact [ochaunep@un.org](mailto:ochaunep@un.org) for assistance.

## Evaluation and certification

Once you successfully complete your course, you will notice that “Please evaluate the course” is now an available option on the course summary page. Once you complete this brief evaluation, you will be able to print your EHA certificate or save it as a PDF.

### Course Summary

Your progress

**OBJECTIVES**

After completing this course, participants will have

- Improved awareness of the role the environment plays in humanitarian work.
- A better understanding of the outcomes of aid by anticipating and addressing potential negative impacts.
- Increased awareness on why it is imperative to integrate key environmental concerns into humanitarian activities.
- A greater familiarity with the related tools and trainings (EA, REA, ENA, EIA, MIRA).

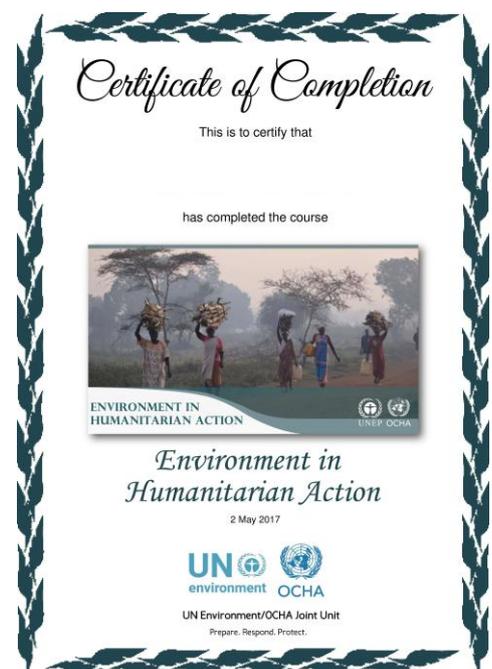
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- [Certificate of completion](#) - Once you have completed the previous steps, you will be able to download your Certificate of completion as a PDF file.

### Activities

- eLearning Module
- Please evaluate the course
- Print your EHA Certificate
- List of Resources

After completing the course, the user will receive a Certificate of Completion. This document is ready to be printed and displayed. The certificate verifies that the user has successfully finished the course and all the exercises included in it. It carries the user’s name, the date of completion, and the title of the course. Please save this certificate for your records.



## The Environmental Emergencies Centre LinkedIn Discussion Forum

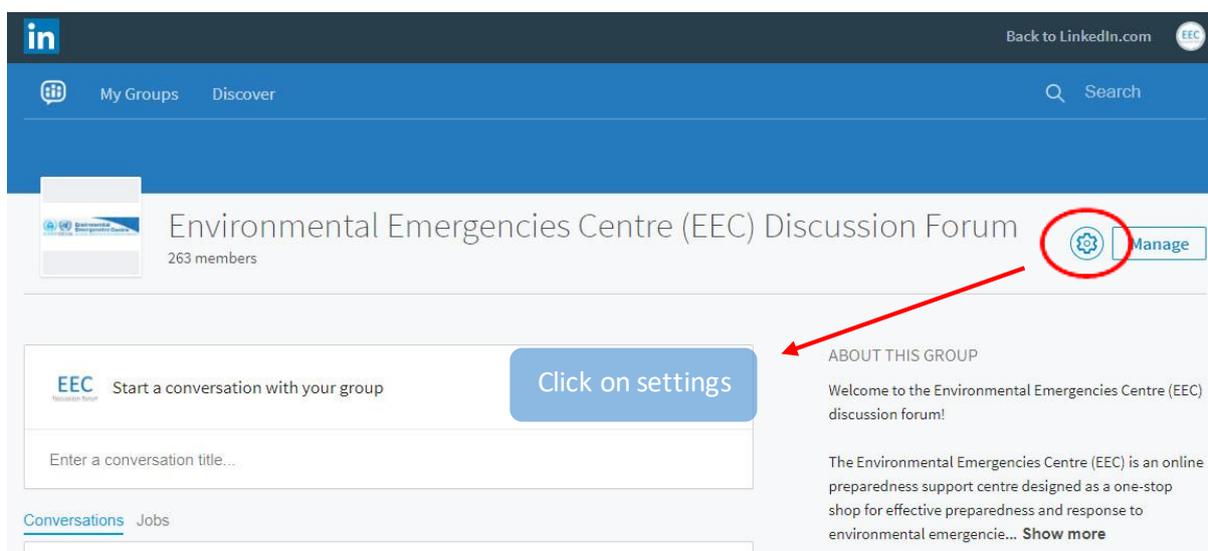


To stay up-to-date on the EEC, we encourage all EEC users to add the Environmental Emergencies Centre on LinkedIn, and join the EEC Discussion Forum.

The LinkedIn Forum allows users to stay up-to-date on the EEC, explore intriguing new opportunities, and all the latest news. The discussion forum is a platform for people to ask questions and share ideas and lessons learned with other practitioners of environmental emergency preparedness and response. The forum is moderated by the UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit team, and all are invited to join!

To register, please create a LinkedIn account and search for "Environmental Emergencies Centre (EEC) Discussion Forum." Users can request to join the group, and upon joining they will be able to see all that the EEC community has to offer.

In order to make sure you do not miss any posts, make sure to turn on notifications for new posts in the group.



The screenshot shows the LinkedIn interface for a group named "Environmental Emerge...". The "Contact Me" section is expanded, showing options for email notifications. The "New Conversation Activity" option is checked, and its checkbox is circled in red. A blue callout box with the text "Keep this box ticked for notifications" has a red arrow pointing to the checked checkbox. Other options include "Display the group logo", "Digest Email", and "Admin Announcements".

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email [ochaunep@un.org](mailto:ochaunep@un.org). We look forward to welcoming you to the group.

## Interested in other areas of the EEC?



In addition to the training section, the main EEC homepage ([eecentre.org](http://eecentre.org)) includes six primary pages: the Homepage, About EEC, Training, Partnerships, Events and Contact Us:

- a) **Homepage:** Contains Latest News, a Reliefweb newsfeed, links to register for online trainings and join the LinkedIn discussion forum, and a shortcut to the Environment and Emergencies Forum.
- b) **About EEC:** A descriptive page with information about the EEC, what it offers and some definitions and case studies of environmental emergencies.
- c) **Library:** A database of resources categorized in Reports, Policy, Tools and Guidance, and Communications Materials. Users can narrow their search using the “categories” and “tabs” features to see whether the document refers to preparedness, response, recovery, sudden onset natural disasters, human-induced/technological accidents or complex emergencies.
- d) **Partnerships:** Contains descriptions of the main partners and networks related to environmental emergencies, with direct links to their respective websites.
- e) **Events:** Provides information about events related to environmental emergencies, including the biennial Environment and Emergencies Forum and the Green Star Awards.
- f) **Contact Us:** Details JEU contact information and allows users to send a message to the JEU. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to email [ochaunep@un.org](mailto:ochaunep@un.org).