

Strengthening Environmental Screening Capacity of Humanitarian Organizations

Environmental Screening Report

NEAT +

Nexus Environmental
Assessment Tool

DADAAB, KENYA



7-8 November 2022

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INTRODUCTION

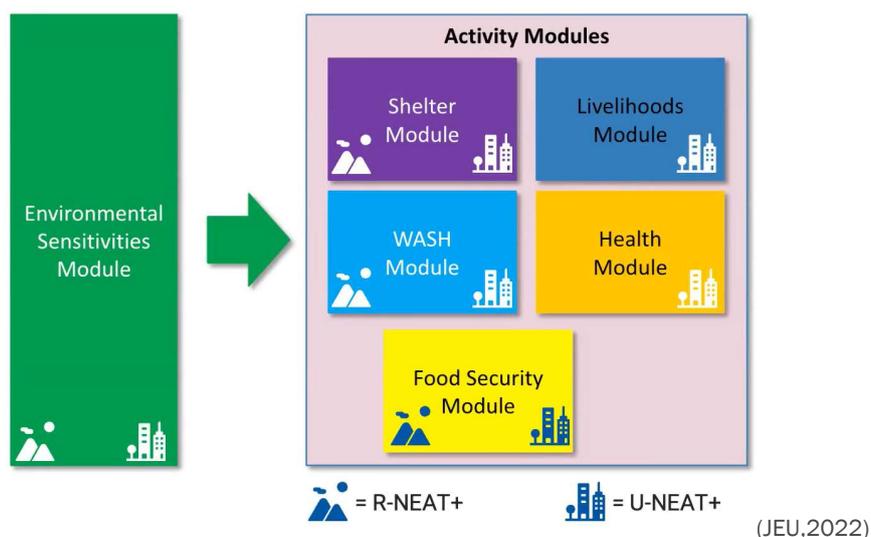
Humanitarian projects, although addressing protection needs and aiming for durable solutions for the crisis and conflict-affected communities, can result in adverse environmental externalities. These environmental externalities must be identified and addressed in the earliest stages of humanitarian response, which helps protect the environment and communities from any project-associated potential adverse impacts. Humanitarian organizations are increasingly working towards addressing environmental considerations in the program cycle; however, this practice is yet to be mainstreamed into project designs and implementations. The most practised exercise for mainstreaming environmental considerations into projects begins with an environmental screening. It evaluates projects' interventions against the sensitivities of the receiving environment to determine positive and negative environmental impacts. Several environmental screening tools can be selected depending on the project's nature, scale, location, and organizations' implementation capacity. Environmental screening is usually a requirement by local environmental authorities and donors but can also be an internal organizational compliance requirement.

This environmental screening has been conducted by applying the NEAT+ environmental screening tool in Dadaab's refugee camp from 07 to 08 November 2022 as part of **Error! Reference source not found.**the ECHO-funded project on "Strengthening the capacity of humanitarian actors to do environmental screenings".

NEAT+

The NEAT+ is an open-source, rapid and easy-to-use environmental screening tool¹ specifically designed for humanitarian contexts. It was developed by a consortium of humanitarian organizations and was officially launched in 2019. The tool generates summary reports providing a snapshot of baseline environmental conditions, potential environmental impacts categorized as LOW, MEDIUM, and HIGH, and mitigation measures. There are currently two versions of the NEAT+ available, the Excel-based Rural-NEAT+ and the web-based Urban-NEAT+. As shown in the figure **Error! Reference source not found.**, the NEAT+ consists of an Environment Sensitivity module and Activity Modules covering core humanitarian activities, which are Shelter and Settlement, WASH, Food Security, Livelihood, and Health. The rural NEAT+ is applied in this assessment considering the project location and activities.

Figure 1: Technical Structure of the NEAT+



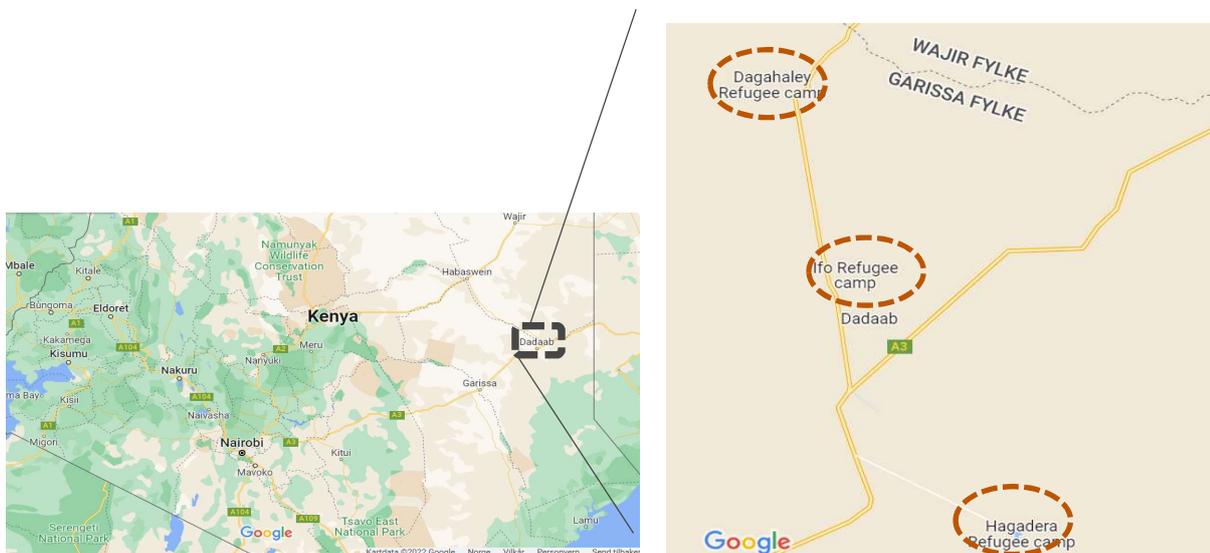
¹ <https://resources.eecentre.org/resources/neat/> or <https://neatplus.org/>

CONTEXT/PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Kenya is the fifth largest refugee-hosting country in Africa. The Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya is one of the world's largest and oldest refugee camps. It consists of the Ifo, Hagadera, and Dagahaley sub-camps, as shown in the figure **Error! Reference source not found.**. The camps were established in 1991–1992 to accommodate the influx of refugees from Somalia, forced to flee by civil war and famine. As of October 2022, a total of 233,736 registered refugees are residing in Dadaab camps (UNHCR, 2022). The camps have shaped into a naturally grown town and have developed into commercial hubs connecting north-eastern Kenya and southern Somalia.

Several humanitarian organizations have ongoing and planned relief operations in all three camps and for the host community. This environmental screening concerns the Ifo camp, which is around 12.3 km² and hosts over 72,579 refugees, mainly from Somalia (UNHCR, 2022). Nearly half of the camp site is established in a flood-prone area, and the community depends on scarce natural resources.

Figure 22: Ifo, Dagahaley, and Hagadera Refugee Camps in Dadaab, Kenya



Projects on WASH, Food Security, and Shelter & Settlement selected for this environmental screening are either at the planning or early implementation stages in the Ifo camp. Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) is planning a WASH project in the Ifo camp in partnership with the UNHCR, the Garissa County government, and community-based organizations. The project aims to ensure equitable access to water, sanitation and hygiene² and has been selected for applying the NEAT+ WASH Module.

World Vision International (WVI) has an ongoing food security project in the Ifo camp. This project is selected as a case study for applying the NEAT+ Food Security Module. The General Food Distribution project³ aims to provide food assistance to refugees in target settlements. The project is implemented jointly by WVI-Kenya in partnership with UNHCR, WFP, and the Government of Kenya, supporting refugee communities in Dadaab Camp.

Many humanitarian organizations in Ifo, Dadaab, are involved in temporary shelter and settlement-related activities. Refugees' shelters in the Ifo camp are old and poorly maintained, and some have not been replaced since the establishment of the camp in 1991. Temporary shelters (T-shelters) are being constructed to resolve this situation since the Kenyan government does not allow humanitarian agencies to build permanent structures on the camp site. The NEAT+ Shelter Module was applied based on the shelter⁴ activities of various

² Additional information on the WASH project can be obtained from Peace Winds Japan, Dadaab, Jack Owitti jack_owitti@peace-winds.or.ke

³ Additional information on the General Food Distribution project can be obtained from WVI-Dadaab, Mohamed Sugow-mohamed_sugow@wvi.org

⁴ Project documents on shelter can be obtain from Ms. Rael wekesarael62@gmail.com and Danish Refugee Council

humanitarian organizations in Ifo, Dadaab. More project details are available in the Annex ([ANNEX 1: PROJECTS DESCRIPTION](#)).

METHODOLOGY

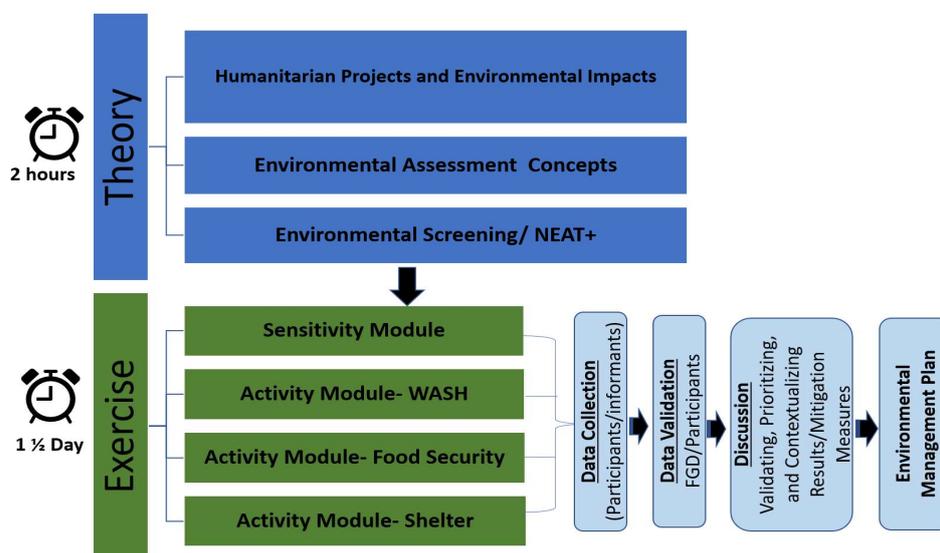
This environmental screening applying NEAT+ is conducted during the two-day capacity-building training held from 07-08 November, 2022, for humanitarian organizations operating in Dadaab, Kenya. The overall approach of the training is ‘Learning-by-doing’; however, topics such as environmental concepts, impacts associated with humanitarian projects, and parameters used in the NEAT+ were explained to the participants before the exercise.

An environmental sensitivity analysis is carried out as a first step, followed by the three Activity Modules using actual project information. The data source was primarily the training participants who had field experience, and secondary data was obtained from the project documents. Due to security restrictions, no on-site transect walk and focus group discussion was conducted with the crisis-affected communities. Instead, data and results were discussed in groups with representatives of organizations implementing the humanitarian projects in the Ifo camp.

The result summary generated by NEAT+ categorizes the impacts into ‘High’, ‘Medium’ and ‘Low’ concerns. The impacts and mitigation measures highlighted in the result summary were discussed with the participants and were prioritized and contextualized using a multicriteria analysis approach. Finally, the most relevant and important impacts and mitigation measures are compiled in an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for further uptake of environmental issues into the project planning.

The figure below illustrates the overall approach and methodology for conducting this NEAT+-supported environmental screening.

Figure 33: Approach and Methodology for Environmental Screening



ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING RESULTS

This section covers the environmental baseline of the Ifo camp in Dadaab and the associated impacts of interventions by the planned and ongoing Shelter and Settlement, WASH, and Food Security projects. The impacts are analysed using expert judgment and through group discussion with participants who had knowledge of the Ifo camp and respective projects.

SENSITIVITY SUMMARY (ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE)

Environmental sensitivity primarily analyses the risks and vulnerabilities resulting from the interactions between communities and their natural environment. In the humanitarian program’s context, an environmental sensitivity exercise helps understand the environmental baseline of the project location and its carrying capacity against the proposed project activities. The sensitivity analysis in the NEAT+ is based on 59 questions covering eleven thematic areas⁵, which helps generate the sensitivity summary report.

As shown in the table **Error! Reference source not found.**, the Sensitivity Summary Report provides an overview of the baseline environmental conditions of the Ifo camp by categorizing environmental issues into Low, Medium, and High concerns. The issues are structured around five broad categories: i) Affected communities, ii) Impacts on biodiversity, iii) Pressure on natural resources, iv) Pollution and environmental degradation, and v) Environmental hazard. Please refer to annex (**ANNEX 3: ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS OF IFO, DADAAB**) for a detailed impact and mitigation measures list.

The main issues highlighted in the NEAT+ generated sensitivity report is **pressure on natural resources due to the high concentration of people in the camp, low governance capacity for managing natural resources, climate change risks that trigger extreme events such as floods and droughts, and proximity of the camp to an area of ecological importance.**

Table 1: Baseline Environmental Issues of High Concern in Ifo, Dadaab
The population of Ifo is highly dependent and exerts direct pressure on low regenerative natural resources, particularly water and forests. The high concentration of people in the camp can lead to competition for natural resources and conflict with host communities.
Biodiversity conservation and areas of ecological importance are in proximity to Ifo camp, which threatens valuable and rare flora and fauna. This may cause zoonotic diseases.
Deforestation rates may exceed regeneration capabilities due to the excessive use of wood and charcoal for household energy use. Deforestation may be a risk.
The general environment in the Dadaab area has a low regenerative capacity. The effects of land and soil degradation are more significant.
The water resources may have a low regenerative capacity. Water scarcity may be an issue.
There is a low capacity for waste management due to a lack of proper sanitation and drainage facilities and poor governance to manage sewage and faecal sludge that can lead to the transmission of diseases.
Ifo the camp is partly located in the floodplain area, there may be a risk of flooding.

SHELTER & SETTLEMENT SUMMARY

The result summary of the Shelter & Settlement module provides an overview of the key environmental risks associated with all the interventions while considering the environmental sensitivity of the Ifo camp. The shelter and settlement module has seven sub-modules, which include i) Shelter Siting, ii) Design, iii) Materials, iv) Construction, v) Energy, vi) Household Items, and vii) Roads and Access. However, only six sub-modules within the project’s scope are considered; the sub-module on the provision of “Household Items”, which was not within the project’s mandate, is excluded from this assessment.

Potential environmental risks associated with the shelter and settlement activities in the Ifo camp include an **unsustainable rate of deforestation, scarcity and low regenerative capacity of natural resources due to over-extraction practices by the community, land and soil degradation due to construction and transport activities, indoor pollution due to poor in-house energy source and unavailability of proper ventilation systems, low waste**

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⁵ i) Profile of the area, ii) Condition of the settlement, iii) Profile of the displaced population, iv) State of Affair/Crisis event, v) Built Environment, Infrastructure, vi) Natural Environment, vii) Nearby areas of significance, viii) Basic Service, ix) Socio-economic setting, x) Natural Resource Dependency, xi) Climate event

management governance capacity, and a lack of waste management arrangements. The table below lists the potential environmental risks prioritized in discussion with the participants, considering the impact's importance, magnitude, and nature.

Table 2: Potential Environmental Risks Associated with the Shelter & Settlement Activities
The materials used in the shelter construction put direct pressure on scarce natural resources, particularly forests, water, and biodiversity. There is a potential risk of biodiversity loss, deforestation, and over-extraction of groundwater.
Shelter construction activities, including transporting materials to the site, and using heavy machinery and unsustainable construction materials, could lead to loss of surface vegetation, topsoil compaction, air pollution, noise pollution, and stagnant water for mosquitos' breeding.
Access roads near the shelter settlements could cause noise and air pollution and lead to road accidents.
The primary source of household energy is charcoal and wood from the forests. There is a potential risk of deforestation.
Cooking is mainly done indoors with poor ventilation facilities, and some food items that might be provided to the community require more energy to be cooked, leading to indoor air pollution and, ultimately, health risks.
Water contamination due to poor shelter waste management could lead to water scarcity.
Poor solid waste management from the shelter constructions and associated activities could lead to health risks for the local communities.
The lfo camp is exposed to flooding; this could risk people's lives, property, and assets if disaster risk reduction measures are not considered in the shelters' construction.

WASH SUMMARY

The WASH activity module covered seven out of ten sub-modules that were within the scope of PWJ's WASH project. Activities within the project are i) Design of Water Abstraction/Extraction Systems, ii) Design of Water Distribution Networks, iii) Operation and Maintenance of Water Systems, iv) Latrine Design, v) Solid Waste Management, vi) Water Trucking, and vii) Distribution of Wash and Hygiene Kits. Sub-activities such as Shower Design, drainage network, and infrastructure construction are not within the project scope.

Potential environmental risks associated with the WASH activities based on the NEAT+ result summary include **water scarcity due to arid climatic conditions and low water regenerative capacity, limited resources and capacity to manage and reuse wastewater, risk of water source contamination, and poor governance of solid waste and drainage arrangements.** The table below provides the list of environmental risks prioritized by participants based on the impact's magnitude, type, and importance within the lfo camp's context.

Table 3: Potential Environmental Risks Associated with WASH Activities
The lfo camp is in an arid climatic region with low water regenerative capacity. WASH interventions, particularly water trucking, might lead to faster water abstraction than it can be replenished.
The scarce water resources are in high demand by refugees and host communities. There may be limited operation and maintenance capacity and little use of water-saving technology. This can lead to social conflict.
There is a low capacity to manage wastewater. Environmental sanitation and waterborne diseases may be an issue.
The water sources may be vulnerable to contamination due to poor sanitation and waste management practices. Water quality and quantity may be an issue posing health risks.
A low focus on diversifying water sources and few water conservation practices, such as wastewater reuse, may lead to the over-exploitation of groundwater resources.
The WASH and hygiene kits distribution may lead to waste generation without a water management strategy.
Distance between water sources and sanitation facilities might not be maintained, leading to potential contamination of nearby surface or groundwater sources.

The Ifo camp is exposed to flooding and drought, and WASH infrastructure and interventions may be directly affected if risk reduction measures are not considered.

FOOD SECURITY SUMMARY

Food security and the environment are interdependent; therefore, interventions in one will directly impact the other and the communities. The food security module has four sub-modules that are i) Direct food assistance, ii) Livestock, iii) Agriculture, and iv) Irrigation and water management. The WVI's food security project has only direct food assistance and livestock-related interventions; therefore, sub-modules on agriculture and water management are excluded from this assessment.

Based on the result summary, potential environmental risks associated with direct food assistance and livestock interventions are **the unsustainable rate of deforestation to meet household energy needs, generation of solid waste from the packaging, and organic waste, indoor pollution due to energy usage for cooking and poor ventilation systems, water contamination as a result of animal manuring and slaughtering, land and soil degradation due to overgrazing, and possible transmission of zoonotic diseases to humans for being in close contact with animals.** The table below lists the key environmental risks prioritized based on expert judgement and consultations with the project team and training participants who were familiar with the context.

Table 4: Potential Environmental Risks Associated with the Food Security Activities
Deforestation may be a risk due to extensive wood usage for cooking and the low regeneration capacity of the forests.
Indoor pollution caused by cooking and poor ventilation system may pose a health risk to the inhabitants.
Water contamination and scarcity may be a risk. This is primarily due to poor waste management and livestock. Water sources could be polluted without separate drinking water arrangements for animals.
There is a low capacity to manage solid waste, particularly waste generated from the packaging of food items and organic waste from expired or unused food. Environmental sanitation and disease transmission may be an issue.
Land and soil degradation may be a risk. This is a combined impact of livestock overgrazing and the natural environment's low regenerative capacity in Ifo. Livestock overgrazing could expose the fertile soil to wind and water erosion.
Natural resources may be scarce and in high demand. This can lead to social conflicts.
Ifo camp is near the protected natural areas where the environment has high biodiversity value. Vulnerable and rare flora and fauna may be at risk.
Carbon emissions and energy usage due to transportation, food processing etc., maybe a risk.

PRIORITISATION OF THE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The NEAT+ result summary generates a list of generic and specific impacts and suggestive mitigation tips, which need to be contextualized and prioritized. The list of environmental impacts is thoroughly discussed with the participants and stakeholders during the focus group discussion, and simple yet technical criteria are applied to address the most significant impacts. The criteria applied included the magnitude, frequency, and duration of the impact.

For each selected/significant impact, several mitigation measures were considered. Most mitigation measures were picked from the NEAT+ generated result summary, some mitigation measures could also be considered during the focus group discussion with the project-affected people, and others could be generated using expert judgement or a commonly used PSIR (Pressure, State, Impact, Response) framework. The multi-Criteria Analysis approach was used to prioritize the most relevant and effective mitigation measures. The criteria used included technical feasibility, social acceptance, organizational capacity for implementation within the project's scope, and alignment with donor and national regulatory frameworks.

The prioritized impacts and respective mitigation measures for each activity (WASH, Shelter & Settlement, and Food Security) are compiled in the EMP below. The EMP is a standard exercise that helps project managers to identify impacts, allocate resources, incorporate mitigation measures into the project planning, and set up monitoring arrangements within the project implementation plan.

Table 5: Environmental Management Plan

Project Type	Project Phase (When)	Potential Impacts	Actions to Mitigate Impacts	Responsibility	Indicators & Verification Means
	Implementation-Clearance/Warehouse Constructing	Loss of vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • limit vegetation clearance to the project site only. • Plant indigenous trees as a revegetation measure 	Implementing partner (IP)/contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of indigenous trees planted or m² area revegetated
	Implementation, Operation	& Waste Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate organic and inorganic waste and designate a waste dump site at an appropriate distance. • Minimize the amount of packaging, substitute for paper or cardboard (biodegradable), and promote the principle of reducing, recycling, and reusing in all operations. 	IP, Community, District Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities have received awareness training • Availability of designated waste dumpsite • Observation during field visits
	Construction	Soil Compaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit soil compaction to the only project site and minimize heavy trucks and machinery for a long duration • Avoid water stagnation 	IP, Contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of existing roads for transportation • No placement of heavy machinery on the project site for too long. • Observation during a site visit
	Implementation Operation	& Indoor pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the use of highly efficient fuel stoves • Consider outdoor cooking facilities • Consider proper ventilation systems in the shelter 	IP, Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observation during the field visit and monitoring of the number of households using fuel-efficient stoves
	Implementation	Deforestation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote alternative energy sources, where possible • Consider fast-cooking (pre-processed) culturally appropriate food items and energy-efficient pots • Promote alternative livelihood sources, reduce dependency on natural resources 	Community, IP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More use of fast-cooked or pre-processed items provided • There is reduced use of wood and charcoal for household energy
	Throughout project cycle	Water scarcity & Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguard drinking water sources against contamination • Include a hydrogeological survey in bore well projects, avoid unconfined aquifers • Keep an appropriate distance (minimum 15-20 meters) between septic tanks and water sources. • Reduce water losses, promote kitchen gardening • Consider water ponds for groundwater recharge • Ensure that water abstraction doesn't exceed its replenishment. Conduct a water balance (supply/demand) study • ensure an exit strategy from water trucking • Collect and safely dispose of oil residuals, including waste oil, lubricants, and used filters. • Build capacity for water conservation practices 	Community, IP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water balance (hydrological) study done • Number of water quality tests conducted • Reductions in the number of cases of waterborne disease • Appropriate distance between toilets & water sources maintained • An exit strategy from water trucking in the short to medium term

Project Type	Project Phase (When)	Potential Impacts	Actions to Mitigate Impacts	Responsibility	Indicators & Verification Means
	Throughout cycle	project Poor waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve sanitation infrastructure • Consider necessary arrangements for the safe disposal of fecal sludge and its reuse as manure or biogas. • Create awareness among communities 	Community, IP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe safe disposal of sludge or safe reuse • Segregated waste management arrangements available
	Throughout cycle	project Land & Soil degradation due to erosion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit herd size and overgrazing, Minimize soil compaction • Plant indigenous vegetation • Minimize vegetation clearance 	Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical observation of indigenous tree plantation, diversification of livestock
  	Throughout cycle	project Climate induced events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leverage traditional knowledge on the type and frequency of climatic events, Awareness, and use of simple, early warning system • Consult risk maps with local authorities • Support diversification of livelihood sources • Promote climate resilient practices, rainwater harvesting, elevated ventilated improved latrines, etc 	Community, IP, Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community practice water harvesting and reuse. • Disaster Risk Reduction measures considered in the project design • Awareness workshops on climate resilience • Diversification of livestock and income sources
	Project Planning	Camp settlement proximity to sites of ecological or cultural value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include nature conservation experts/organization in the planning • Integrate messages on the importance of biodiversity within the community awareness campaigns • Try to keep a 15 km distance from areas of ecological importance, where possible 	Donors, IP, Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Messages on the importance of biodiversity and its protection are incorporated into the community awareness training materials
 	Throughout project cycle	limited understanding of the local ecosystem and a less cohesive community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote community green spaces that provide shade and a sense of community • Support mixed community-level structures and integrated activities • Promote the “Environmental Champion” concept among communities • Put in place Grievances Redress Mechanisms 	IP, Community	Number of mixed community structures and green spaces
  	Throughout project cycle	Limited environmental governance capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include local formal and informal institutions in the capacity-building programs 	IP, Donors, Government	List of government staff and community members trained.

Legend:



WASH



Food Security



Shelter & Settlement

RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

Some of the key learning from the environmental screening exercise and recommendations are listed below.

- ❖ This environmental screening report is useful for organizations currently working or planning to implement projects in the Ifo camp of Dadaab. It gives an assessment of the baseline environmental conditions of the Ifo and its surrounding camps in Dadaab. It also provides a list of potential environmental impacts and mitigative measures for WASH, Shelter & Settlement, and Food Security related projects, which could guide other environmental screenings in Dadaab too.
- ❖ Environmental assessment tools, including NEAT+, are more effective when applied during the project planning phase; however, they can also be used for ongoing projects to avoid and mitigate negative environmental impacts through corrective actions.
- ❖ NEAT+ is a participatory tool, and it's more effective when input data is discussed among the project team and with stakeholders. The environmental data collection and the discussions are as important as the outcome of the environmental screening process. This helps in the collective understanding of project-related environmental impacts, helps create awareness, and contributes to learning on environmental issues.
- ❖ The quality of environmental screening outputs is dependent on the reliability of the input data. It is important to minimize data biases while filling out the questionnaires and give considerable time to explore various data sources, validate, and triangulate data rather than merely relying on assumptions. NEAT+ is a flexible tool where input data can be corrected after verification with the stakeholders and informants at a later stage.
- ❖ The primary data source in this assessment were the participants and project team who attended the training. Field visits to the project site, transect walk, and focus group discussions could not be conducted due to access restrictions. Focus group discussion and community engagement are essential aspects of an environmental screening process, which helps in utilizing traditional knowledge of the local communities, understanding community challenges and their priorities, giving them a sense of inclusion in the process but also informing them about their share of responsibility in addressing environmental impacts.
- ❖ NEAT+ generates a list project associated impacts and suggests mitigation measures; however, it is important to analyse and contextualize these impacts and mitigation measures. It is also important to look beyond this list and consider other important impacts and mitigation measures which might not be listed in the NEAT+-generated result summary. This might require some input or consultations from environmental experts and other stakeholders. As such, NEAT+ should be considered a guidance tool.
- ❖ An Environmental Management Plan is a useful matrix that compiles impacts and respective mitigation measures and assigns actors responsible for implementing each measure at a specific stage in the project cycle. An EMP can be integrated into the project implementation and monitoring plans if it is developed in a format that is consistent with the existing project documents.
- ❖ Environmental screening may not be seen as a one-off exercise or stand-alone exercise. Humanitarian organizations must systematically mainstream environmental screening as an embedded process within the program cycle or integrate it into existing project procedures, such as Situational Analysis or Rapid Assessments.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

- Access to NEAT+ Excel Sheet used in this environmental screening (provided within the folder)
- ECHO Environmental Guidance: https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/humanitarian-aid/climate-change-and-environment_en
- Environment and Humanitarian Action (EHA) Connect, a comprehensive online repository of tools and guidance spanning the humanitarian-environment nexus: <https://ehaconnect.org>
- Environmental Emergency Centre - library of resources and tools for environmental emergency prevention, preparedness, and response Resources: <https://resources.eecentre.org/>
- The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)- Green Response: Environmental Quick Guide (2022): <https://www.ifrc.org/document/green-response-environmental-quick-guide>
- Nexus Environmental Assessment Tool: <https://neatplus.org/>
- Norwegian Refugee Council- Environmental Assessment NEAT+ in Kigoma, Tanzania (2020)

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: PROJECTS DESCRIPTION

Project: Dadaab General Food Distribution (Food Security Module)

Implementing Partner: World Vision International, and World Food Programme (WFP)

Goal: 169,000 Refugees and asylum seekers living in camps and settlements in Ifo and Dagahaley have access to adequate food to meet their food and nutrition needs throughout the year.

Project Description: The primary objective of this project is to provide adequate, nutritious and unconditional food assistance to refugees in target settlements for one year. This objective directly aligns with WFP's Strategic Outcome 1, which aims to ensure that refugees and other populations affected by natural human-caused disasters have access to adequate food to meet their food and nutrition needs throughout the year. In addition to the GFD, the planned supplementary feeding distributions will help to improve micronutrient access among pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6-23 months through a blanket mother-and-child health and nutrition (MCHN). This includes improving the dietary diversity of pregnant women and their families through the provision of Cash Based Initiatives (CBI).

This objective will be reached through the following outputs

Output 1.1: 12,518.61Mt of assorted food commodities distributed to 169,000 refugees in sufficient quantity, quality and promptly

Output 1.2: Operational monitoring system for food accountability established.

Output 1.3: Operational humanitarian accountability system established.

Output 1.4: Refugees receive capacity building and technical support to create and utilise productive assets for increased self-reliance and income generation.

Project: Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH Module)

Implementing Partner: Peace Winds Japan, UNHCR

Goal: Ensure equitable access to water, sanitation, and hygiene essential for the health, well-being and dignity of people affected by forced displacement and protracted refugee situation in Dadaab.

Project Description: The project targets the refugee population of 234,084 comprised of 118,781 Females and 114,122 Males living in the three camps of Hagadera, Dagahaley and Ifo and 14,381 undocumented refugees and 10,231 host community members adjacent to the three camps.

Outcome WASH: Persons of concern access safe water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities

Outcome Well-being: The well-being of the persons of concern is improved, and the gap in basic needs is bridged through providing assistance and services in proportion to needs.

ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX 3: ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS OF IFO, DADAAB

Category	Sub-Category	Potential Impact/Issue of Concern	Recommended Mitigation Action
Affected Communities	High Concentration of People	Overconsumption and competition for limited natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limit the camp population below 20,000, if possible. - Try to promote fuel-efficient stoves - Plan for community green spaces that provides shade and a sense of community
	Social conflict and uncooperative behaviour	Lack of trust and disintegrated social structures lead to unsustainable practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote integrated activities between refugees and host communities - Support mixed community-level structure that involves decision making
	Lack of incentive to practice sustainable behaviours	Weak social governance system and lack of attachment to the local area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Set up community grievance redress mechanisms - Promote participatory planning and awareness campaigns
	Low environmental governance capacity	Uncontrolled and unchecked exploitation of natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote awareness and include local formal and informal institutions in capacity-building programs
Impacts on Biodiversity	Proximity to fragile ecosystems	The fragile ecosystem has a lower capacity to absorb and recover from shock events. Encroachment into wild natural areas can lead to zoonotic diseases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact local conservation organization for biodiversity assessment - Keep the camp site at a 15 km distance from areas of ecological significance (protected areas) - Raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity and associated risks
	Proximity to vulnerable flora and fauna	Encroachment into wild areas can pose a risk to vulnerable flora & fauna, and livelihood and human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporate traditional knowledge of biodiversity and engage refugee communities - Consult local conservation organization, and refer to the IUCN Red List of threatened species (http://www.iucnredlist.org)
	Proximity to a protected or conservation area	Risk of damage to ecosystem and sites of significant cultural value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engage Garissa County environmental protection authority - Respect the buffer zone and minimum allowed distance from the protected area - Create awareness among the host and refugee communities on the value of biodiversity
	Land and soil degradation	Desertification, water scarcity, flooding, and can lead to the loss of livestock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimize vegetation clearance - Promote indigenous vegetation with land cover and erosion control mechanisms - Build the capacity of farmers and provide technical support on conservation agriculture
Pressure on Natural Resources	Dependency on the natural environment	Overexploitation of natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create awareness and assess the dependency of the community on natural resources - Support alternative sources of income
	Unsustainable rate of deforestation	The Ifo camp falls under an arid climate region with low forest regrowth and regeneration capacity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support diversification of livelihood, discourage deforestation - Establish community-based forest management practices, create awareness, and rehabilitate degraded land, where possible.
	Water scarcity	Arid regions are water scarce, where competition for water leads to social conflicts, and fetching water from long distances can lead to gender-based violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce water losses, and encourage wastewater reuse for irrigation - Promote water conservation practices such as rainwater harvesting - Monitor groundwater balance, and discourage over-extraction of groundwater - Create awareness of water conservation practices
	High demand for natural resources	Competition for limited natural resources can lead to social tension and conflicts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Setup natural resources management committee and raise awareness - Address environment in situation analysis or conflict analysis exercise - Promote alternative sources of livelihood
	The unsustainable extraction rate of natural resources	Natural resource extraction can be a source of life, but over-extraction can lead to long-term environmental degradation, habitat loss and fragmentation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support sustainable livelihood opportunities that prevent the over-extraction of local resources - Include natural resource protection in the awareness campaigns

	Climate Change and Natural Resources	The impacts of climate change in arid regions like Dadaab are more severe on water and agriculture, with direct implications for people's livelihoods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote nature-based solutions, and include the impact of climate change in the awareness campaigns - Support climate change adaptation measures, such as water conservation practices
Pollution and Environmental Degradation	Vulnerability to indoor air pollution	Burning poor quality fuel such as charcoal for cooking and other indoor activities can lead to severe health issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote the use of improved cookstoves - Consider improved ventilation in shelters and promote outside cooking, where possible.
	Increased rate of outdoor air pollution	The massive use of diesel generators for electricity and transportation using unpaved roads causes outdoor air pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Put speed limit signs for vehicles - Promote clean sources of energy such as solar panels - Create awareness and consider green belts around the settlement - Where possible, keep distance between the pollution source and settlements
	Low capacity to manage solid waste	Unmanaged solid waste hosts harmful pathogens and provides a breeding ground for insects & rodents. It contaminates fresh water sources leading to health issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create awareness on reducing, re-use and recycling approaches for waste, and best practices - Provide separate waste dump points for organic and inorganic waste, where possible
	Low capacity to manage wastewater	Untreated wastewater may contaminate clean water sources and is a breeding place for mosquitos, leading to human health, livestock, and farming issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce wastewater generation, and treat it where possible - Consider drainage as part of the water supply system - Promote vegetation, including kitchen gardening and create awareness - Refer to the WASH activity module
	Low capacity to manage sewerage and faecal sludge	Poor sanitation infrastructure or practices have significant health implications, mainly when the soil texture is sandy and loose, which allows groundwater contamination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve sanitation infrastructure as part of the WASH project - Create awareness and provide technical support and reuse of waste as manure (organic fertilizer) for agriculture
Environmental Hazards	Presence of disaster waste	Disaster waste like rubble, natural debris, tents, and hazardous substances can hinder access and pose health and safety risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consult disaster waste management expert and assess waste - Segregate hazardous waste from waste that could be reused.
	Risk of soil erosion (wind)	Fine soil particles are prone to wind erosion, taking the fertile topsoil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimize vegetation clearance - Promote planting grass, shrubs, and trees for stabilization
	Risk of soil erosion (water)	Clay soils are vulnerable to water erosion leading to loss of fertile surface cover.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote planting deep root light trees, grass, and bushes to stabilize soil and slopes. - Set up drainage canals, where possible
	Risk of flooding	Part of Ifo camp is established in a flood-prone area, and thus the risk of flooding exists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep the drainage area clear - Consult national and local hazard maps - Create awareness and use simple, early warning systems
	Conflict-related hazards and pollution	Remnants of war contain hazardous substances, like asbestos/radioactive materials, which harm nature and humans,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consult risk maps and local authorities on site-specific contamination - Establish reporting mechanism and create awareness of conflict-related pollutants
	Increased risk of climate hazards	Increased frequency and severity of natural hazards such as floods and droughts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrate climate change adaptation and resilience building in the project activities - Consult communities on past patterns of climatic events - Promote sustainable and climate-smart livelihood activities such as water conservation practices - Assess whether the proposed project activities may exacerbate the vulnerability of people to climate change risks.

