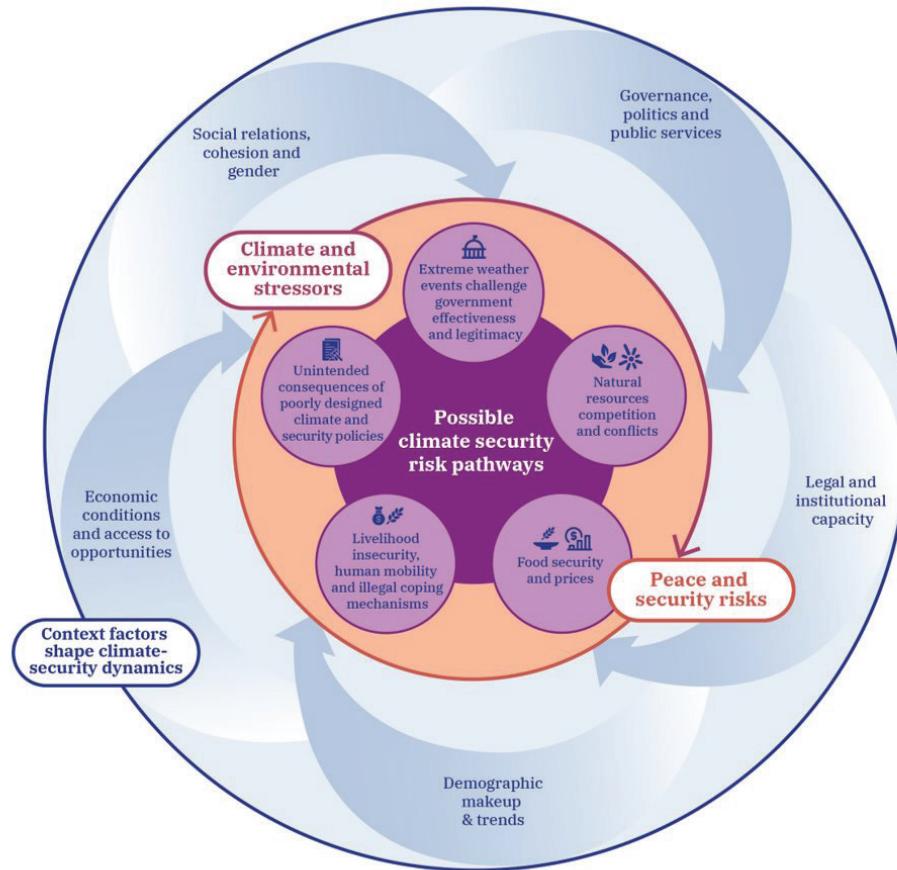




## Climate Change as a Security Challenge

### Climate Change and Security: Risks, Responses, and Resilience

21 October 2025 • 2:00–3:30 p.m. Manila Time (GMT+8) • Virtual via MS Teams



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Climate change and environmental challenges can pose risks to human security and peace. As climate and environmental stressors become more pronounced, peace and security risks can also increase, based on context factors that shape vulnerability and resilience. As part of Resilience Learning Month, CCRE and CCFE shared findings from a recently completed climate and environmental security assessment in Papua New Guinea. Led by CCFE and adelphi with PNRM, the study revealed how climate stressors intensify fragility through six complex and interlinked pathways—natural resource conflicts, tensions around extractive industries, sorcery-accusation-related violence, disaster- and conflict-driven displacement, climate-driven migration and urban pressures, and conflict risks linked to aid and development responses.

**“Do no harm is the minimum for project design. We can go further, especially to create more equitable access to resources, like water.”**

**DUSTIN SCHINN**  
Climate Change Specialist  
AFNR, SD2, ADB

## SPEAKERS



**ERIN CHU FELTON**

Senior Operations and Coordination Specialist (Fragile & Conflict-Affected Situations) CCSD

**MODERATOR**



**LUKAS RÜTTINGER**

Senior Advisor  
Adelphi



**ERICK SARUT**

Senior Climate Change Officer  
PNRM, ADB

## KEY MESSAGES

- **Peace and security.** Climate change and environmental risks can threaten peace and human security. The assessment in Papua New Guinea proposes that increased vulnerability can be illustrated through six interconnected pathways: natural resource conflicts, extractive industry-driven tensions, sorcery-accusation related violence, disaster and conflict displacement, climate-driven migration, and response measures which can intensify societal tensions and conflict risks.
- **Upstream integration.** Embedding climate- and environmental risk analysis into country partnership strategies and diagnostics like fragility and resilience assessments can help anticipate risks and challenges that also align with government priorities.
- **Beyond “do no harm.”** The design and implementation of ADB projects need to include, but also go beyond, the “do no harm” principle. The climate and environmental risks to peace and security requires ADB to look at the potential of integrating interventions that can prevent and address sources of conflict and violence.
- **Local partnerships.** Strong engagement with civil society and local communities are vital to understand and address context-specific risks.
- **Holistic resilience-building strategies.** PNG’s ability to navigate the challenges of climate change and insecurity will require holistic resilience-building interventions that can also advance peace and conflict-prevention opportunities.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

**Adelphi** published their long-form report of the Climate Security Assessment for PNG which was supported by ADB:  
<https://climate-diplomacy.org/magazine/environment/climate-peace-and-security-assessment-papua-new-guinea>