

# HOW CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTS CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

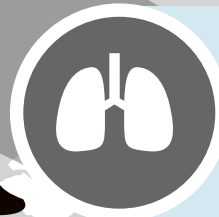
## DISEASES

Children are **more at risk of contracting vector-borne and infectious diseases** including waterborne diseases which spread fast in the aftermath of floods and storms.



## AIR POLLUTION

Children, due to their higher breathing rate and physiology, are **more susceptible to respiratory problems, cognitive delays, and infections.**



## FOOD INSECURITY

Climate change-induced food shortages greatly impact children. **Malnourishment** during the first years of life can result in irreversible stunting with lifelong consequences for children's cognitive capacity and health.



## INJURY & DEATH

Children, particularly young ones, are **more susceptible to injury and death** during natural disasters.



## HOUSING

Floods, landslides, sea-level rise and storms can destroy housing units **worsening living conditions** particularly for children in informal settlements.



## MENTAL HEALTH

Children experiencing life-threatening situations have a **higher chance of experiencing post-traumatic stress** and mental health issues.



## DID YOU KNOW?

**Climate change will disproportionately affect children in vulnerable situations** including poor children, indigenous children, minorities, and migrants.

Natural disasters can disrupt access to essential services and child protection systems. **Risks of child labour and child trafficking may increase**, girls may be more subject to sexual violence and early or forced marriage. Children with disabilities are at risks of abuse, neglect and abandonment in the event of climate shocks and natural disasters.

Climate change may have **far-reaching implications for the long-term mental health and overall quality of life of children** and their right to grow, play and live in a healthy natural environment. Young children, because of their less-developed physiology and immune systems, will experience the effects of climate change-related stresses most intensely.



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