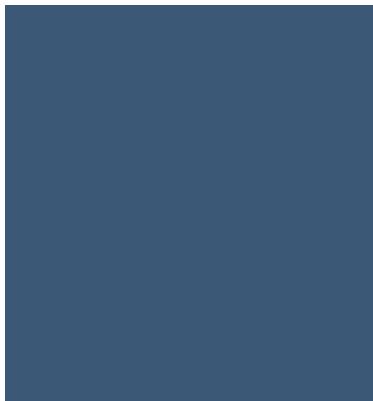


STOCKHOLM FORUM on Peace and Development 2022

From a Human Security Crisis Towards an Environment of Peace
23-25 May 2022





Foreword

In May, the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and SIPRI hosted the 2022 Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development. This year signalled that a convergence of crises is the ‘new normal’. The Covid-19 pandemic and its socio-economic effects are ongoing, and the world is grappling with failures to address old conflicts and prevent new ones. The impact of Russian military aggression against Ukraine is being felt far beyond Europe, through the undermining of international law, growing distrust between and within countries, dwindling food supplies and the spectre of nuclear threats. The broader effects of the Ukraine war and democratic backsliding are also happening in parallel with an even more existential threat to human security: environmental destruction and the spiralling climate crisis.

Taking place in the run-up to the Stockholm+50 summit in June and the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) in November, the 2022 Stockholm Forum examined the impacts of climate change and the degradation of the environment for peace and security. Under the theme ‘From a Human Security Crisis Towards an Environment of Peace’, the Forum considered how to secure peace in a time of environmental crisis.

Indeed, current conflict trends are expected to worsen as areas become uninhabitable due to high

temperatures, floods, droughts and fires. Conflicts around water have contributed to deadly clashes between farmers and herders in the Horn of Africa and climate vulnerabilities have fuelled violent extremism across the Lake Chad region, for example. However, a significant challenge linked to climate change or environmental destruction can also be the slow pace at which it unfolds. As climate science shows, incremental changes can accumulate over a longer period of time before reaching critical tipping points and creating irreversible damage.

Therefore, we find ourselves in a new era of existential risk, where the human security risks of today can become the hard security problems of tomorrow—and yet the solutions are not primarily military in nature. No country alone can manage the security risks prompted by climate and environmental change, especially as they compound with other risks. What we need is to develop comprehensive, mutually reinforcing and sustainable solutions at national and international level, including within the African Union (AU), the European Union (EU), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the UN.

Climate and environmental action needs to adopt a peace and conflict lens, while peace and



development efforts require a climate and environmental lens. The 2022 Stockholm Forum brought together actors and stakeholders from different countries, sectors and disciplines to explore how the environment and climate communities, on the one hand, and the peace and security communities, on the other hand, can jointly analyse problems and work better together. Several innovations stood out this year:

- **Youth participation.** Youth representatives participated actively as Stockholm Forum speakers, including on high-level panels, in technical discussions, as well as from the audience.
- **Engaging formats.** The Stockholm Forum combined open, high-level policy debates, round-table discussions and workshops with fireside chats and spotlight presentations.
- **Hybrid production.** After two years of virtual Stockholm Forums, senior policymakers, practitioners, researchers and civil society exchanged views through both in-person and online participation.

The Forum discussed how to address the twin security and environment crises, how to invest in preparedness, resilience and peace, and how to develop processes of reform and innovation. The 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment was historic in recognizing that common threats can only have common solutions. Today, 50 years on, we face even more dramatic and existential challenges. To be successful in addressing them, we need to focus on both short- and long-term solutions and put cooperation at their heart. And only if we are deliberately inclusive, will we facilitate transitions to greener societies that are just and peaceful. We must take seriously the everyday efforts within our own organizations and societies to prepare ourselves for the future and create an environment of peace. Thank you to all 2022 Stockholm Forum partners and participants for doing so.

Ann Linde

Ann Linde
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Government of Sweden

Matilda Ernkrans

Matilda Ernkrans
Minister of International Development
Cooperation, Government of Sweden

Stefan Löfven

Stefan Löfven
Chair of the Governing Board, SIPRI



Introduction: From a human security crisis towards an environment of peace

There are as many armed conflicts today as there have been at any time since World War II, non-state armed groups have proliferated, and the numbers of conflict deaths and forcibly displaced people have doubled since 2010. In Europe, war between sovereign states is back. Simultaneously, a human security crisis is raging as the impacts of rapid climate and environmental change are increasingly being felt by populations around the world. The continuous increase in floods, heatwaves, forest fires and droughts suggests that human security can no longer be guaranteed by tweaking the margins of

business as usual. The policy challenge is complex. On the one hand, it is to address the impacts of slow onset or sudden extreme weather events that are generating or amplifying tensions and grievances in some places. On the other hand, it is to ensure that the massive changes needed to protect the biosphere are undertaken in a just and peaceful way.

The 2022 Stockholm Forum focused on how to secure peace in a time of environmental crisis. It began by launching the flagship SIPRI report, *Environment of Peace: Security in a New Era of Risk*, which describes this new era of risk and how to build a just, sustainable

and peaceful future for all. The report provided the context for the policy questions that the 2022 edition of the Stockholm Forum considered. The recommendations emerging from the report and discussed at the Forum centred on the need to:

- implement both short- and long-term solutions simultaneously;
- put cooperation at the heart of such solutions;
- adapt continuously to new realities;
- ensure a just and peaceful transition from fossil-dependent to green societies; and
- make inclusion the default.

Particular attention was given to the gendered nature of climate-related security risks and environmental degradation, the specific context in which Indigenous Communities are affected, and their central role in developing solutions to address the environmental crisis. Priority themes were:

- How to improve national and human security by restoring nature, the synergies between climate action and development, and strengthening fragile contexts.
- How to ensure a just and peaceful transition to competitive, low-carbon and environmentally sustainable economies.
- How to design policy efforts that not only prevent and address climate-related security risks, but actively build more resilient communities through environmental action.
- What role and responsibility international organizations have in addressing this dual challenge.

What follows is a summary of the key insights generated during the discussions on:

- Securing peace in a new era of environmental risk.
- Ensuring a just and peaceful transition.
- Addressing the climate crisis and protecting the future of democracy.
- Overcoming financial barriers to women's climate security action.
- Hard security perspectives on climate change: Real threat or hype?
- Climate security and development beyond the Stockholm Forum.



An extract from the opening statement by Nisreen Elsaïm, President, Sudan Youth Organization for Climate Change

Nisreen Elsaïm is a Sudanese youth climate activist and negotiator. She chairs the United Nations Secretary-General's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change and presides over the Sudan Youth Organization for Climate Change. Reminding us that national borders will not protect us from climate change, her opening remarks called on the international community to turn policies to address environmental degradation from theory into practice.

‘Many international institutions are failing us—both the young generation but also the old generation who really believed in the values of the UN. When a friend recently said to me, “I guess there is no perfect solution for everyone”, I responded, “No, there is a perfect solution. But there is no perfect implementation because we are humans. And humans are not perfect. We need to understand that we complement each other and that it is okay to be different. To be different without harming others is the exact point where humanity will reach its equilibrium with nature. Because when we hurt each other, we hurt nature. And when we hurt nature, we hurt each other.”’ ■



Securing peace in a new era of environmental risk

Recognizing the interconnectedness of insecurity and environmental degradation, the opening of the 2022 Stockholm Forum stressed the urgency to stem the world's deteriorating geopolitical situation and climate crisis simultaneously, as well as the need for multilateralism in order to do so.



'Environmental and peace interventions need to be addressed simultaneously.'

Ann Linde, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Addressing both security and climate change presents a challenge to existing international norms and practices, but also opportunities for unprecedented cooperation. Such cooperation may focus on:

- **Multilateral arenas, including the OSCE and the UN.** As chair of the OSCE in 2021, Sweden prioritized climate change on the OSCE agenda and mechanisms for improving coordination and responses to climate-related security risks. In the UN, the Climate Security Mechanism (CSM) was established to strengthen the capacity of the UN system to address climate-related security concerns more systematically.
- **Bridging local knowledge and international resources.** In addition to multilateral spheres, cooperation that bridges local knowledge and international resources is necessary. Local actors often have weak logistical and technical capacities, but they have access and insight that the international community lacks. Further collaboration between different levels of actors—from grassroots to multilateral international organizations—can enable effective solutions.
- **Cross-sectoral collaboration.** Collaboration between practitioners, policymakers, academics and local actors can produce innovative solutions to mitigate and prevent both the direct and the indirect consequences of climate change.
- **Women and girls.** Preventing and mitigating the impact of climate change necessitates inclusion at every decision-making level. Women and girls' disproportionate vulnerability to climate change creates an opportunity for them to bring up relevant issues, including access to resources, capacity building and preparedness, in political arenas.
- **Local empowerment.** Participation should not be limited to high-level political spheres, but include empowerment at the local level. In Somalia, for example, women are often the primary providers for their families and have the social capital in their communities to engage others in climate change action. Their position should be leveraged to prepare their communities for prevention and adaptation.

Recommendations going forward

Stemming the climate crisis against a darkening security horizon requires new frameworks of coordination, diplomacy, inclusion and capacity building.

- **Develop frameworks for coordinated responses to climate-related security risks.** Governments must coordinate their responses to climate-related security risks more effectively. The linkages between security, climate and inclusivity have

been recognized by non-governmental organizations but have yet to penetrate governments. Governments' interinstitutional and international relations must be adapted to tackle the interconnected issues of climate and security. Establishing mutually reinforcing environmental and peace policies is necessary.

- **Appoint ambassadors for climate security.** As in Sweden, other governments may consider appointing ambassadors for climate change and security to push for the implementation of preventative and reactionary measures, the adoption of green policies and improved bilateral relations.
- **Be deliberately inclusive.** Involving women and youth, especially from the Global South, in decision making must be a priority to ensure that the issues addressed are relevant and the means of intervention effective. Their role as agents of change can and should be leveraged to enhance the resilience of their communities.
- **Build capacity for climate change action.** Capacity building to enhance understanding of the effects of climate change can facilitate community engagement and actions that hold governments accountable. Sharing knowledge on preventative action and adaptation will help prepare communities and support efforts to mitigate climate change.



'We need a new way of thinking if mankind is to survive.'

Jessica Tuchman Mathews, Distinguished Fellow,
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace



'Working on climate change is not a box we can tick after war; it is part of the continuous peacebuilding process.'

Ilwad Elman, Director of Programs and Development,
Elman Peace and Human Rights Centre



Extracts from the fireside chat with Margot Wallström, former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sweden

The 2022 Stockholm Forum launched a major report for policymakers—Environment of Peace: Security in a New Era of Risk—highlighting five core principles to guide responses to the dual environmental and security crisis:

- Think fast, think ahead, act now.
- Cooperate to survive and thrive.
- Expect the unexpected.
- Only a just and peaceful transition will succeed.
- By everyone, for everyone.

Margot Wallström chaired the international expert panel guiding the research.

Q: What is unique about the Environment of Peace report? What is the main takeaway?

‘The main takeaway is that we have both the knowledge and the examples of managing the dual security and environmental challenge. We have many cases where environmental problems are leading to social unrest, conflict and ultimately war, but we also look at ways to prevent that. The report establishes those links, explains them and provides an idea of what we should do next.’

Q: What in your view are the top recommendations?

‘First, cooperate with your neighbours and all those downstream of that river that you share. Second, pay up. We need countries to pay the funds to adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change. This is not happening right now. Instead, governments across the world are increasing their military spending. But we need more to fight the dual crisis that we see. Cooperating across borders and making sure that we have the resources to start to adapt to

climate change will change things around. Third, is long-term thinking. The African Union, for example, has a plan until 2063. Very few other organizations are willing to think that long term. But this is exactly what is needed.’

Q: What comes next?

‘We need pilot countries that embrace this report, follow the principles we have set out. It is of no help if the report just ends up gaining dust on a shelf somewhere. A report of this kind must have a practical outcome. For example, seeking out the best examples of how to sort out the tensions between herders and farmers in the Sahel area. Or maybe identify what armed groups can gather around—a solution for very practical and everyday problems that they see. Start with the small things and then build from there. See what your concerns are and those on the other side. Of course, I also think we must fight for democracy, for humanity, for the very basic ideas of how we look at the world, at each other and our life together on this planet.’

Q: How can multilateral, government and local communities foster an environment of peace?

‘Applying the principle “nothing about them, without them”. If you plan reforms or changes that you know will affect a certain area, you have to engage with people and organizations that live there. In our country, extraction and reopening mining activities often clash with the interests of Sami people. Making sure to plan and engage people early on in any reform that will really change everyday lives for people is a red thread throughout the Environment of Peace report. You need to be deliberately inclusive.’ ■



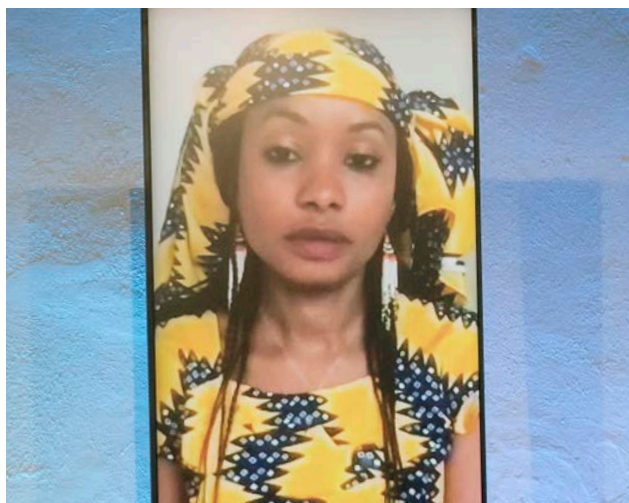
Ensuring a just and peaceful transition

The starting premise of this session was that the transitions needed to bring about a more sustainable world present risks as well as clear opportunities for peace and security. They will impact at all levels—from the geopolitical to the local—and need to be managed carefully to ensure a just and peaceful process. Countries' different energy choices come with different security implications. The discussion focused on new approaches and systematic integration of conflict perspectives into global climate policies to tackle the intersection of climate and conflict. It called for multi-faceted policy approaches and funding—carefully designed, planned and implemented to ensure they do not entrench divisions and contribute to conflict.

Transforming climate action: Current shortcomings

- **Access to climate funding.** Despite the linkages between climate and conflict, UN Development Programme data suggests that less than half of climate funding goes to fragile and conflict-prone states. Investors are discouraged by the high levels of investment risk and complexity encountered in fragile and conflict contexts. As a result, developed countries currently receive most of the funding despite their higher resilience and better infrastructure to manage shocks.

- **Exclusion.** Another problem in transforming climate action is the exclusion of key groups. Women, Indigenous Peoples and youth—the most affected by climate change and conflict—are rarely included in designing and implementing interventions in their communities.



‘You cannot plan a project in the office—you cannot derive the strategy of implementation somewhere else without involving the community who have to deal with the project.’

Hindou Ibrahim, SDG Advocate and Co-chair of the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change, Chad

- **Government capacity.** Fragile states tend to suffer from poor governance and government capacity to manage climate-related conflict shocks, yet international donors often pursue intervention through official, national-level government channels.
- **Incentives.** Incentives to destroy the environment for profit or survival exist at all levels, from international corporations mining precious minerals to people using slash-and-burn farming techniques. When the economy of an entire community is based on an industry that is harmful to the environment, it cannot easily be replaced without risking joblessness, migration and increased competition for resources. Nevertheless, such incentives need to be addressed to increase the effectiveness and sustainability of climate-conflict interventions.



‘There is room for new initiatives and measures. Prevention is most cost effective and least damaging in so many ways.’

Jenny Ohlsson, State Secretary for International Development Cooperation, Sweden



‘We need to increase the scale of finance for food, water and fragile states.’

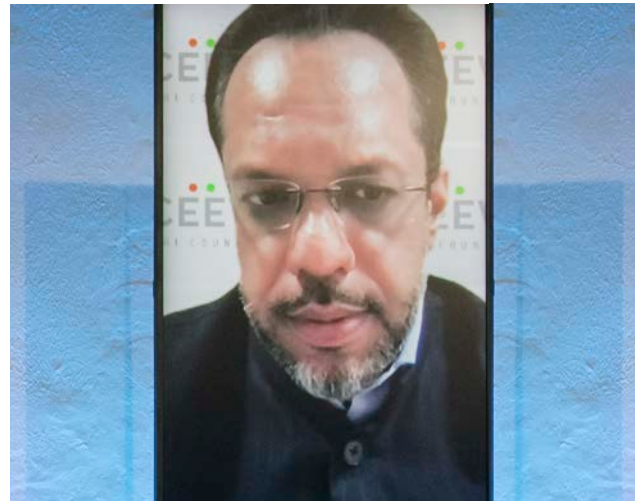
Sultan Al Shamsi, Assistant Undersecretary, Ministry of Development and International Cooperation, United Arab Emirates



‘Fragile states have the most to lose from climate inaction but the most to gain from ambitious global climate action—climate positive investment can enhance the resilience to conflict, provide reliable energy access to diversify economic livelihoods, enhance resilience to extreme weather events and economic shocks, strengthen community engagement and social capital, and foster inclusive peaceful and sustainable development pathways.’

Oyun Sanjaasuren, Director of External Affairs,
Green Climate Fund

- **Map conflict risk zones with new technologies.** Innovative technologies can be used to map conflict risk zones and resource availability in order to help communities coordinate collective resource management, predict migration patterns or communicate to prevent escalating tensions. Through the co-development of technology, the tech sector also gets closer to the problem it is trying to solve. Technological development combined with a sense of agency by local communities, in turn, promises to facilitate a form of entrepreneurship that disincentivizes environmental destruction.



‘Step one is to undertake granular risk mapping ... the more we build up that evidence base, the easier it becomes to design the governance systems to respond.’

Arunabha Ghosh, Chief Executive Officer,
Council on Energy, Environment and Water, India

Recommendations going forward

Considering these shortcomings, ways to transform current climate action include making climate–conflict interventions more adaptable, with more complex goals and more focus on fragile states:

- **Expand flexible, conflict proofed climate financing to fragile contexts.** The gap in funding directed to fragile versus developed states needs to be reduced. Climate interventions should include a conflict perspective, while peace and conflict initiatives require a climate dimension. In addition, a shift towards more complex, comprehensive interventions is needed. Greater flexibility from donors is called for in this context. Current bureaucratic structures prevent funding from taking multidimensional approaches. Supplementary budgets and private sector investment should also be enhanced. One way forward may be financing models based on resilience. Such models would determine a community’s threshold for crisis management and pay once that threshold is crossed to allow for more context appropriate funding that prevents crises from spiralling into larger conflict issues.
- **Include local governments and marginalized groups.** As in other areas, interventions need to be more inclusive of local governments and marginalized groups. International organizations should partner with local and regional governments to deliver funding where it can be most effective, making sure to include women, Indigenous Peoples and youth in climate–conflict interventions. To achieve this and make international interventions sustainable, presenting information in the languages of those communities and granting them ownership is key.



An extract from the spotlight presentation by Ili Nadiah Dzulfakar, Co-founder and Chair, Klima Action Malaysia

Ili Nadiah Dzulfakar is a climate justice activist from Malaysia, where the authorities persist in their resistance to the climate and environmental movement. In her Stockholm Forum spotlight presentation, she argued that—for the sake of our climate—more must be done to involve traditionally excluded groups in decision-making processes. While some efforts have been made, many young people in Malaysia have been deterred from taking part due to the dangers involved.

‘Activism remains a dangerous activity in many communities. Demanding accountability and reform can be deadly. So, why are we taking this risk? Because demanding accountability and transparency are non-negotiable in democratic governance. If there is no democratic governance, policies will fail and people suffer. In Malaysia, this cycle has been going on for decades. Peace and security are vital to implement, so are actions to reach carbon reduction targets, but also our well-being targets such as resilience and gender equality. When rights are erased, we face a

governance crisis, a deficit of trust between civil society and the government and a multiplier of conflicts in Malaysia’s multicultural societies, most notably the rise of racial tensions, women disempowerment and Indigenous Peoples’ mistreatment.

Communities must take ownership of issues tied to their future. We cannot achieve peace if there is no recognition of the past. Indigenous sovereignty must be upheld, traditional practices of natural resource management by local communities must be respected. There are no shortcuts to building community trust, genuine solidarity and meaningful partnerships. The most sustainable way to transform society in Malaysia is by building peace, strengthening democracy and governance, and upholding justice.’ ■



Addressing the climate crisis and protecting the future of democracy



'Democracy is actually quite capable of handling big issues, much larger than generations and spanning lifetimes. It is hard, but it is possible.'

Magnus Nilsson, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Effectively addressing the climate crisis and protecting the future of democracy are two agendas that have remained largely separate despite their connections. On the one hand, the outcome of the climate crisis depends on whether democracies can drastically reduce their carbon footprints in the short-to-medium term, as democracies generate over 50 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions. On the other hand, the future of democracy as a credible political system may well ride in its ability to effectively deal with an existential issue for humankind.

This discussion focused on what can be done to enhance the ability of democratic systems to respond to the climate crisis. It considered: (a) how to leverage democratic assets, such as civic and youth activism, free circulation of information, accountability mechanisms, capacity for self-correction and inclusive decision making, to address climate-related security issues; (b) how to mitigate the shortcomings that often affect democracies' performance, including short-termism, cumbersome decision-making processes and opportunities for policy capture; and (c) how democracies can better listen to and absorb proposals by young civil society actors.

Challenges versus opportunities for climate action in democracies

Democracies face both challenges and opportunities in dealing with climate change. In terms of challenges, democratic policy making relies on slow, compromise solutions where legitimate interests need to be reconciled. Stemming climate change, however, does not allow much scope for compromise or time. In addition, due to electoral cycles, the political incentives inherent in democracies focus on the short-to-medium term—yet climate change requires long-term thinking, as its effects are accumulative and have long-term consequences. Unsurprisingly, democracies are generating incremental policy changes that are insufficient to meet the existential threats posed by climate change. Moreover, governments may be facing short-term economic temptations to subsidize fossil fuels to gain popular support and avoid economic deficits, instead of making the more costly, much-needed long-term investments in greener economies.

In terms of opportunities, democracies are uniquely placed to mitigate climate change. The strength of democracy lies in its ability to create policies that are more broadly accepted. In addition, the free distribution of information, higher levels of gender equality and the ability of concerned citizens to hold reluctant governments accountable allow them to pursue better climate strategies, for example through judicial action. The engagement of strong civil societies and youth climate movements is an important driver for innovative climate mitigation policies. Democracies are also more active and committed in international climate negotiations.

Recommendations going forward

- **Showcase that climate action and economic development are not mutually exclusive.** Climate mitigation can result both in people losing their jobs and in the creation of new jobs through technological advances. Democracies need to communicate the opportunities involved and empower people to see through the short-term promises of populist leaders.



‘The key issue in democracy is to get the governments . . . to show that it is possible to create jobs and have poverty alleviation . . . and at the same time embrace the environment and climate change.’

Felipe Calderon, former President of Mexico



‘The narrative that we have now is just survival ... But people want more than survival. We want to thrive in the future. That is the narrative that is missing.’

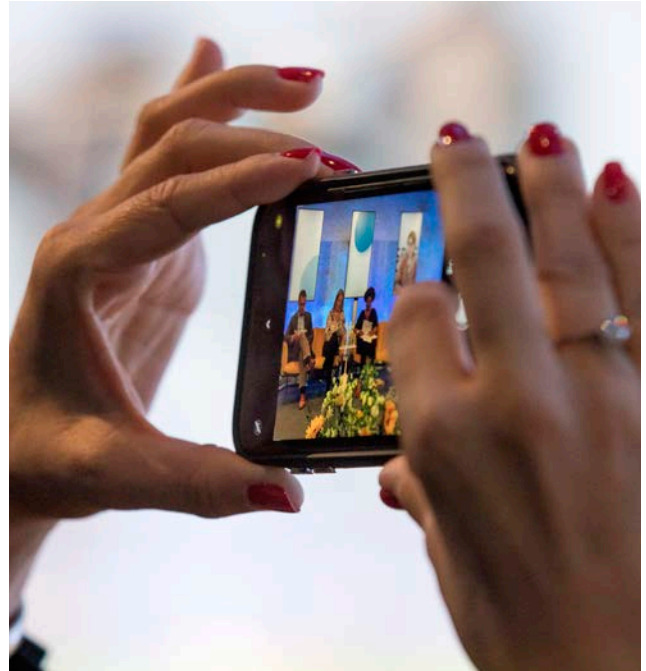
Ili Nadiah Dzulkafar, Co-founder and Chair of Klima Action Malaysia

- **Take responsibility and accept short-term costs for long-term gain.** Countries in the Global North are responsible for most of the global carbon emissions, while enjoying privileges that countries in the Global South can only aspire to. Populations and governments in highly developed democracies should dare to make decisions that may involve short-term trade-offs and costs for the long-term benefit of humanity.
- **Pursue more ambitious and immediate carbon emission reduction.** Democracies must promptly cut their carbon emissions further. Although much current investment is focused on carbon capture technology for the future, any such long-term technological progress for climate mitigation needs to be balanced with actionable strategies in the present.
- **Shift the climate narrative from fear to opportunities.** The narrative around climate and security is generally characterized by fear, forecasting a bleak future for mankind. It is important to outline the risks, but fear tends to paralyse rather than motivate people. In order to be more effective, the discourse should focus on hope and the opportunities connected to climate action promises. Climate journalism is an important channel through which innovative climate actions can be shared.
- **Include youth meaningfully.** Youth councils should be meaningfully included in policy making. Meaningful inclusion requires decision makers to actively listen to youth representatives, allow a younger generation to lead governmental institutions, give youth ownership of their work, finance youth involvement and break traditional norms of age hierarchy.
- **Set realistic goals and rethink democracy.** As anxiety over seemingly unattainable goals frustrates people, it is important to set milestones. This requires considering the myriad of factors that hamper progress towards climate goals. As democracies embrace the prospect of change, they are best placed to mobilize the relevant constituencies to reach climate goals. This contrasts with non-democracies, where change is deemed dangerous. To address the climate crisis and protect the future of democracy, there is a need to rethink the future of democracy with popular mobilization, including youth, at its heart.



‘We really have to rethink the way democratic politics works and make it attractive to young people.’

Kevin Casas Zamora, Secretary General, International IDEA







Extracts from the fireside chat with Stefan Löfven, former Prime Minister of Sweden

Stefan Löfven is the Chair of the SIPRI Governing Board as of June 2022. Löfven was Sweden's Prime Minister from October 2014 to November 2021. Recently appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General to co-lead the High-level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism in preparation for the 2023 Summit of the Future, he shared his insights on how to increase the effectiveness of the multilateral system.

Q: We currently face an appalling number of armed conflicts, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the coronavirus pandemic, and the impacts of climate change. Is our current international system up for the challenge?

‘No—we have a lot of tools, but we lack structures. The coronavirus pandemic is a clear example. A vaccine was developed in just one year and we showed that if you put in the resources and you cooperate, you can be quicker than we ever thought. But, after that came problems of distribution, logistics and the lack of a holistic view. I remember talking to the President of the European Commission. We were both frustrated because we should have had a structure allowing us to discuss how many vaccines to produce, how to ensure they reach all countries and whether we have to educate people in some regions to get the shot. This is what makes the difference, not developing the vaccine. We need to make sure next time we have this system working.’

Q: What are the main shortcomings of the current multilateral governance structures?

‘We know what to do, but we are doing it too slowly. Peace, security, health, climate, digitalization—the agenda is huge. We have to narrow it down, be

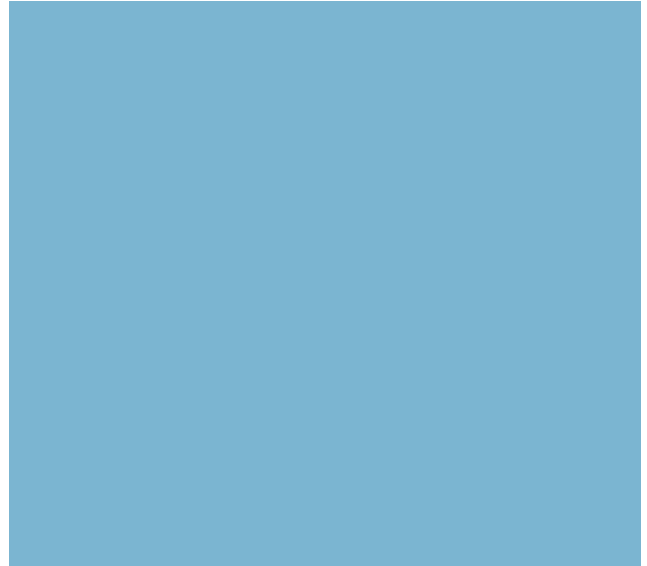
concrete and bold. For example, in the peace and security field we [the UN Secretary-General's High-level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism] discussed decision making in the Security Council. Thirty years ago, one of my predecessors proposed changes to the veto right. Understandably, that was not popular with the five permanent Security Council members, the P5. At the same time, now one of the P5 can veto what needs to be done when it comes to Ukraine. Something needs to change. On climate we have an idea what to do to decrease emissions. We understood that it is at the national level that you need to take responsibility. You cannot merely say this is something global. But we need to find new ways of speeding things up, for example, by providing a more positive and visible picture of what needs to be done.’

Q: Meaningful change requires all relevant stakeholders at the table. How do we make multilateral institutions more inclusive?

‘My whole experience as a trade union leader and as a politician is that the more inclusiveness, the better the result. Knowing that, we should support more groups to take part in our decision making. Take the example of Sweden's EU policy: every six months we brought in the social partners because we wanted to talk with them before we acted in the EU. You can do so in various forms. It is up to each country, of course, but it is necessary if we want to develop global cooperation.’

Q: What would you say to the sceptics who think more effective multilateralism is not possible?

‘With this position we will end up in a catastrophe. Cooperation and bridging silos is key. Not everything can be done at the global level, but we need to identify common challenges, a common vision and common goals. Take the example of social protection at the European level. We founded something called the Social Pillar. It covers three main areas: the right to have a job, a secure job and—when you cannot work—the right to financial support. We then developed it into concrete things. The Social Pillar meant that we established a common vision to improve people's lives, because the EU is not for businesses only but for its citizens. We agreed that everyone could do it their way, but to follow the same path and review every year what member states are doing to improve social security. While you cannot take a regional model and transfer it to the global, we need to follow the same principle.’ ■



Overcoming financial barriers to women's climate security action



'We have countries spending 40 per cent of their GDP on climate adaptation. If we do not use that climate adaptation programming as conflict prevention, we are losing the potential. And if we are not letting women also lead those processes, we are losing potential.'

Per Olsson Fridh, Director-General,
Folke Bernadotte Academy

This panel turned the spotlight on the critical work of women's civil society organizations and women activists in addressing climate change and insecurity. Yet, women are facing a host of financing, normative and security barriers. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), as of 2018 only 3 per cent of climate finance was directed at women and girls. The discussion focused on how financing could reach those at the frontlines of climate-security action in conflict-affected and fragile settings. It concluded that engaging women effectively in climate initiatives requires shifts in donors' attitudes, more flexible funding, better inclusion and direct engagement at grassroots level.

Current barriers

There are many challenges to directing funding towards women's climate action:

- **Disproportionate exclusion of women from formal power structures.** Women work disproportionately in the informal sector and rely heavily on self-organization within their communities. The lack of funding of their organizations hurts their size, capacity and access to additional resources. This, in turn, makes donors distrustful: smaller organizations may not provide the required reporting or may lack staff to manage the bureaucratic processes or language involved.
- **Lack of gendered perspectives in traditional, single-issue climate financing.** Donor organizations often build interventions along specific single-issue agendas, including climate change or security. Women's organizations focused on the broader context and the many ways in which climate and conflict impact communities—rather than single missions of climate change or security—are therefore often left out of donor initiatives.
- **Lack of gender targets in aid.** According to OECD data, only 4 per cent of bilateral aid has gender as a primary focus and only 1 per cent goes specifically to women's rights organizations.

Recommendations going forward

Changing the approach of donors, improving funding flexibility and focusing on inclusion can all help overcome the challenges that women's groups face in gaining access to climate funding:

- **Move from donorship to partnership.** The conversation on investment risks needs to shift from the money donors may lose to what communities lose when there is little or no intervention. Centring the risk on the communities allows for donor–beneficiary relationships to change into partnerships. Such partnerships could overcome fears that

community-based organizations might fail and could help improve communication and trust while increasing organizational capacity.

- **Provide flexible funding.** Improving the relationship between donors and organizations could also allow for greater flexibility in funding. Greater trust could lead to lower reporting requirements and enable small organizations to receive funding. Donors could grant organizations more autonomy in how they manage their funding, thereby breaking down traditional power structures.
- **Establish gender metrics.** It is vital to include women and smaller community-based organizations in the decision making, facilitation and implementation of climate interventions. Donor organizations should include gender metrics when measuring their impact and diversify the types of organizations they fund. Inclusion also means funding women's organizations in the most fragile, climate-affected conflict or post-conflict states.



'Nothing discussed today can be solved by one actor alone.'

Elizabeth Spehar, Assistant Secretary General for Peacebuilding Support, UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs



'We need to shift the risk conversation from a donor to a community agenda. We should not be talking about donors' risk of losing money, but about the risk of losing lives that human rights and environmental defenders take every day to make their societies better.'

Petra Tötterman-Andorff, Secretary General, Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation



Extracts from the fireside chat with Franck Bousquet, Deputy Director, International Monetary Fund

As Deputy Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Franck Bousquet coordinates engagement with fragile and conflict-affected states. In a fireside chat, he shared how the IMF is bringing conflict and fragility onto its agenda and how climate change drives fragility and macroeconomic instability.

Q: What is your take on the interrelationship between climate change and conflict?

‘Climate change is a driver of fragility and conflict which, in turn, is extremely important from a macroeconomic perspective. It acts through different channels, for example, through food insecurity or movements of population. Climate change also has a significant impact in terms of revenue loss for countries. So, it is macro critical.’

Q: What is the role of the IMF in contexts where the transition to a less carbon-dependent society triggers tensions?

‘Any change or reform needs to be analysed by looking at the impact on different groups in society. We are rolling out a country engagement strategy in each fragile and conflict-affected state, asking what are the key drivers of fragility? And what do they mean in terms of programme design, capacity development and policy advice? When you look at the transition to a green economy, it is very important to understand the unintended consequences of certain programme features and what they may mean in terms of calibrating, tailoring and

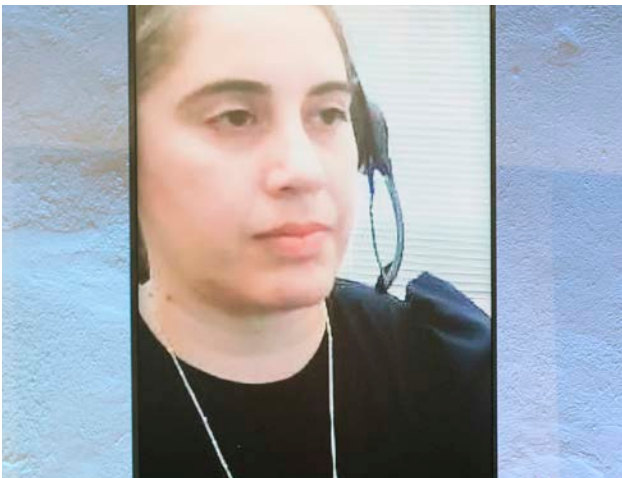
sequencing reforms. Some priorities may not work given a context of societal instability. The whole point of our country engagement strategy is to look at all key drivers of fragility, including climate change. We need to assess what they mean for our engagement.’

Q: How is the IMF’s strategy for fragile and conflict-affected states expected to shape its work at the backdrop of the climate crisis?

‘The IMF has three instruments: policy advice or consultation, capacity development and programme design, and financing. The first looks regularly at the health of the economy of countries. It is about capturing systematically the macro criticality of key drivers of fragility, food and security, forced displacement, and climate. The second, capacity development and programme design, ensures we will have additional experts on the ground to focus not only on what needs to be done, but also on how. The last piece is financing and how to focus on programmes on what is most important, look at the unintended consequences and how they may impact on fragility. It is also about helping fragile countries to step up in addressing long-term challenges such as climate change or pandemic preparedness. We want countries to move out of fragility. Success is about macroeconomic stability, inclusive sustainable growth and making sure that those people who need help most receive it.’ ■



Hard security perspectives on climate change: Real threat or hype?



‘No nation can find lasting security without addressing climate issues.’

Melissa Dalton, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs, United States

Discussions around climate-related security risks are increasing across the full spectrum of policy communities. Military actors—from national armed forces to alliances, as well as peacekeeping operations—have recognized climate change and the ensuing security risks, even though the solutions to the problems are not solely, or even primarily, military. This panel brought together hard security voices from different regions and backgrounds that have recognized climate change as relevant to defence. It focused on the priorities for military actors in an age of climate change and a ‘new era of risk’, and how to persist in an environment where some consider the topic of climate change a hyped up optional extra that can be ignored by security actors with no consequences. Several themes stood out:

- **Multilateral cooperation.** Coordination between states and militaries and avoidance of applying a nationalistic lens is crucial in dealing with the



‘Climate change is an all-encompassing threat, it touches all aspects of life, society, state and international system . . . As the problem increases everyone becomes very nationalistic, but it should be the other way round—we should be looking outwardly and cooperating on a multilateral basis.’

Major General Munir Muniruzzaman, President,
Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies

climate crisis. This can be achieved through international bodies and alliances, such as the European Defence Agency or the Nordic Defence Cooperation (NORDEFCO)—an alliance between Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland and Iceland.

- **NATO’s tactical and geostrategic approach to deal with climate-related security issues.** Climate change presents operational challenges to militaries. The 2021 Climate Change and Security Action Plan of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) explicitly recognizes that climate change may create unfavourable conditions for military missions and operations, will disproportionately impact the most vulnerable and marginalized members of society (including women and children) and will exacerbate the security risks associated with mass displacements resulting from sea level rise and land degradation. In response, NATO has introduced Centres of Excellence (COEs) to enhance awareness of how to: deal with the complex interplay between climate change and conflict; adapt to challenges in relation to procuring, building and maintaining defence infrastructures and equipment; and mitigate climate disruption by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and reliance on fossil fuels.

- **Avoidance of the Arctic as a new security front.** The Arctic risks becoming a new security front as new trade routes and access to lucrative natural resources in the northern polar region are emerging with melting sea ice. With great-power competition increasing, strategies need to be developed to prevent militarization in and of the Arctic. A more coherent approach in mapping the potential security implications of climate change in the Arctic is needed.



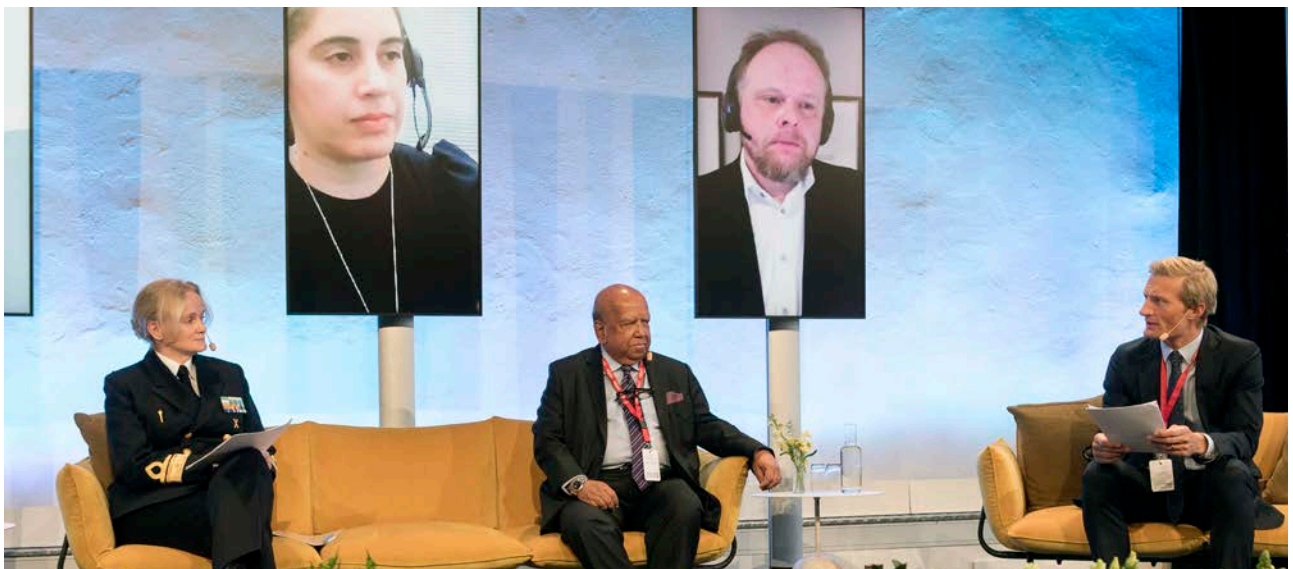
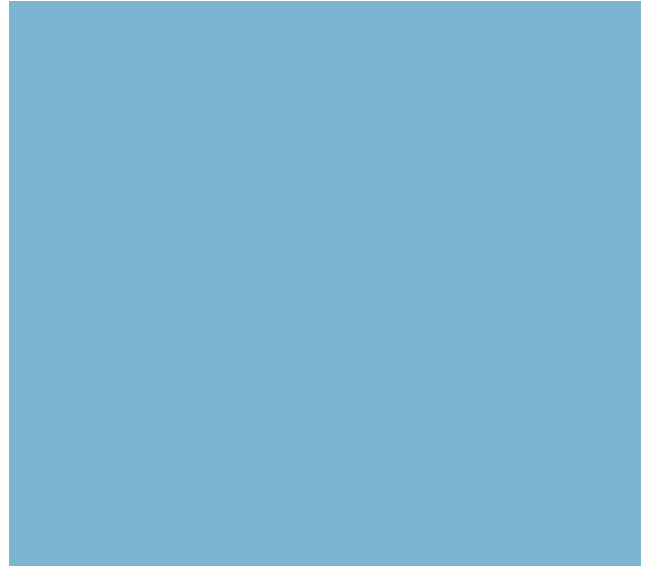
‘Climate change as a security threat is greatest in the North American Arctic and the European High North.’

Kevin Hamilton, Director General, International Security
Policy, Global Affairs Canada

Recommendations going forward

Moving forward, states need to jointly lower their climate security vulnerability and:

- **reduce military reliance on fossil fuels,** securing long-term supplies of renewable energy without compromising military operational efficiency.
- **enhance militaries’ operational resilience** to deal with increasing climate stressors.
- **develop a common understanding** of the complex ways in which climate change affects security on both a tactical and geostrategic level.
- **improve interoperability and collaboration** to enhance collective defence capabilities.
- **invest in innovative technologies** (e.g. carbon capture and storage) to modernize security policies and tackle climate change effects.





Extracts from the fireside chat with Christophe Hodder, Climate Security Advisor, United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia

Christophe Hodder is the first UN Climate Security and Environmental Advisor to Somalia and a member of the Climate Security Expert Network. In a Stockholm Forum fireside chat he explained his mandate, Somalia's challenges in the light of climate change and how he seeks to identify solutions.

Q: Why do we need a climate security adviser as part of a peacebuilding mission in Somalia?

'It is important to bring climate science and climate data together and infuse it with peacebuilding, into conflict analysis, and look at environmental protection. My role allows focusing on climate, human security and environmental security. Before, the focus was environmental protection or conflict, but we had not combined the data and the evidence from a science perspective with how we influence peace.'

Q: What challenges is Somalia facing in the light of climate change?

'Somalia is at the forefront of climate change. Seven million people are in dire need of humanitarian

support, 3.6 million people displaced. Conflict and environmental disasters come and go in waves, but we can see the trend of flooding and drought increasing over the years. Somalia faces not just annual cyclical droughts and flooding, but there are also cyclones and massive deforestation. This is leading to competition over resources like water and grazing land. We can see that there are pathways and interlinkages between climate and conflict. Interestingly, in Somalia, there is quite a lot of water. There are two big rivers and there is precipitation. Before, farmers, herders and pastoralists would know where and when to go to different places. But, with climate change, the rain is just hitting the ground and running off.'

Q: How do you bring climate data and climate science into peacebuilding?

'Part of my role is advocacy. I try to bring in analysis from the IPCC reports as well as macro-level climate data and science to think about Somalia from the vision of 2080. Somalia by 2080 will have a 3- to 4-degree rise in temperature above average mean. A huge amount of land will not be liveable. Recent research says cattle can only live at around the 1.5-degree increase. Camels can only go to a certain level as well, so the whole herder, nomadic lifestyle is going to change and create a big push into urbanization in Somalia. We need to think what this means in terms of conflict and competition over resources.'

Platforms like UNDP STRATA look at hotspot mapping by overlaying conflict with climate change data and social vulnerability indicators. So, we have been trying to map out certain hotspots. Hopefully, we are going to work with the Somali government and international actors to figure out what these hotspots mean and what we can do. We hope that there will be lots of new policies going forward.

The other part of my role is bringing different actors together to work on things. For example, we have started to coordinate the defence mechanisms of the flooding along the Shebeli river. We are trying to look at this from a short-, medium- and longer-term perspective. You have to bring humanitarian development and peace actors together to try to solve the issues. At the moment, we have humanitarians doing a quick fix over here, and development organizations doing something completely different over there. If we were to take a small amount of [Somalia's humanitarian response plan] for environmental protection, we would probably save a lot more lives in the long term. My role is to try and pilot certain things.' ■



Conclusions: Climate security and development beyond the Stockholm Forum



‘Climate justice is social justice.’

Kasha Sequoia Slavner, Documentary Filmmaker,
Peace and Climate Activist



*‘All global institutions need to work
towards the same end: climate neutrality,
nature positive and zero pollution.’*

Johanna Lissinger-Peitz, Ambassador, Head of the
Stockholm+50 Secretariat, Sweden

The closing panel took stock of key insights emerging from the 2022 Stockholm Forum. Panellists laid out an agenda to inform ongoing policy processes, including the Stockholm+50 summit, the 2022 UN Climate Change Conference (COP27) and the 2023 UN Climate Change Conference (COP28). The following lessons stood out:

- **The interlinkages between the environment, peace and security.** It is crucial to understand the inextricable connections between the health of the planet and the health, well-being and prosperity of the people who live on it. Once the connections are understood, the key is to develop policy that is coherent between the different aspects. The Stockholm+50 summit could offer a meeting place further to address these interlinkages, focusing on challenges, synergies and the role of institutions and partnerships. It could be an opportunity to step out of policy silos and reflect on how to collectively respond to the nexus between the environment, peace and security.
- **The importance of a strong multilateral system for joint action against the planetary crisis, for peace and security.** It is crucial to develop more efficient ways to make those in the climate and peace architecture talk to each other, for example, to inform COP27 and COP28.
- **Inclusion and youth engagement as the default.** The legitimacy and effectiveness of action is increased by including a wide variety of voices and actors, especially local grassroots perspectives and youth engagement. In sub-Saharan Africa, young people are often leading the climate change, peace and security movements. Strategies to consider and reward youth engagement are needed to make inclusion the default.



‘It is important to establish that, yes, it is true that young people have the potential, the talent, the energy, and they can be the solution. But they can only thrive when they have the right environment . . . and that environment must be provided by the governments, policymakers and decision makers.’

Chibeze Ezekiel, Executive Coordinator, Strategic Youth Network for Development, Ghana

- **The urgency of transforming current economic systems in a just and peaceful way.** This requires rethinking humankind’s relationship with nature, as one that does not solely rely on extracting from nature. It also requires uncomfortable conversations about how to change the habits of the modern, industrialized world.



‘We need to think it is possible.’

Dan Smith, Director, SIPRI



‘We can only hope that in 20 years’ time, we can tell the next generation that we did something, and it worked.’

Nisreen Elsaim, President of the Sudan Youth Organization for Climate Change and Chair of the UN Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change

- **The need to strengthen governments’ capacity to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.** Momentum towards this goal is visible in Africa. Strengthening national capacity includes institution building to increase resilience, as well as financing peace and development in crisis contexts.
- **A thought community to link diverse forces.** A community of thought, speaking a common language regarding the climate security nexus, could enable diverse movements to join forces towards a more secure world in times of climate change. The media plays an important role in creating a space to shape new narratives for mobilization and action. Intergenerational partnerships are key in this process, especially between youth and the traditional keepers of power and finance.



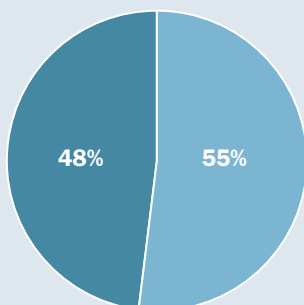
'It is not dignified to give up.'

**Jan Eliasson, Distinguished Associate Fellow and
former Chair of the Governing Board, SIPRI**



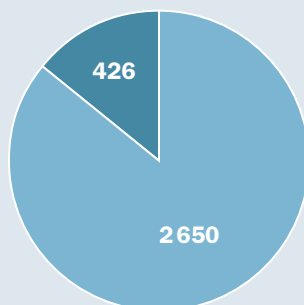
The 2022 Stockholm Forum in numbers

293
SPEAKERS



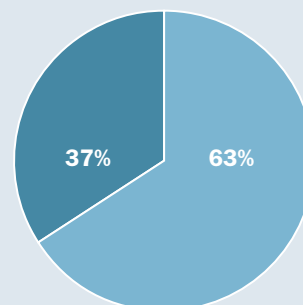
■ Women
■ Men

3 072
REGISTERED
PARTICIPANTS



■ Online
■ On-site

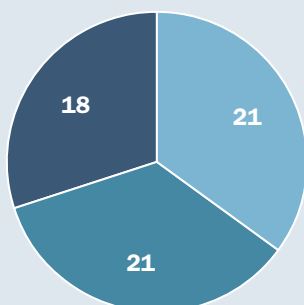
155
COUNTRIES



■ Global North
■ Global South

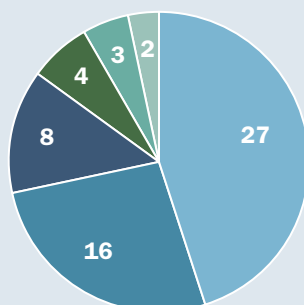
60
SESSIONS (3 days)

Types of sessions



■ In person
■ Virtual
■ Hybrid

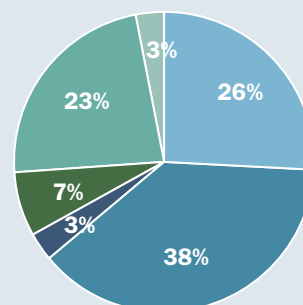
Session formats



■ Round-table discussions
■ Panels
■ Plenary panels
■ Fireside chats
■ Spotlight presentations
■ Workshops

69
PARTNERS

Types of partners



■ Academic/Research
■ CSO/NGO*
■ Consulting
■ Government
■ International Organization
■ Artistic

*Civil society organization/
Non-governmental organization



This summary was authored by Simone Bunse, Stockholm Forum Content Manager, SIPRI. Speakers' contributions were edited for readability and include:

Ahmed Abdel-Latif, *Ambassador, Director General, Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding*

Ann Linde, *Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sweden*

Arunabha Ghosh, *Chief Executive Officer, Council on Energy, Environment and Water, India*

Carl Skau, *Deputy Director General and Head of Department, Department for UN Policy, Conflict and Humanitarian Affairs, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden*

Chibeze Ezekiel, *Executive Coordinator, Strategic Youth Network for Development*

Christophe Hodder, *Climate Security Advisor, UN Assistance Mission in Somalia*

Dan Smith, *Director, SIPRI*

Elizabeth Spehar, *Assistant Secretary General for Peacebuilding Support, UN*

Felipe Calderón, *former President of Mexico*

Franck Bousquet, *Deputy Director, International Monetary Fund*

Geoffrey D. Dabelko, *Professor and Associate Dean, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service, Ohio University*

Hindou Ibrahim, *SDG Advocate and Co-chair of the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change, Chad*

Ili Nadiyah Dzulfakar, *Co-founder and Chair, Klima Action Malaysia*

Ilwad Elman, *Chief Operating Officer, Elman Peace Center*

Jan Eliasson, *Distinguished Associate Fellow and former Chair of the Governing Board, SIPRI*

Jannie Lilja, *Director of Studies, SIPRI*

Jenny Ohlsson, *State Secretary for International Development Cooperation, Sweden*

Jessica Tuchman Mathews, *Distinguished Fellow, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*

Johanna Lissinger-Peitz, *Ambassador, Head of the Stockholm+50 Secretariat*

Kasha Sequoia Slavner, *Documentary Filmmaker, Peace and Climate Activist*

Kevin Casas Zamora, *Secretary General, International IDEA*

Kevin Hamilton, *Director General, International Security Policy, Global Affairs Canada*

Magnus Nilsson, *State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Sweden*

Major General Lena Persson Herlitz, *Head of the Policy and Plans Department, Swedish Armed Forces*

Major General Munir Muniruzzaman, *President, Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies*

Margot Wallström, *former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sweden*

Mary Balikungeri, *Founder and Executive Director, Rwanda Women's Network*

Melissa Dalton, *Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs, United States*

Nisreen Elsaïm, *President of the Sudan Youth Organization for Climate Change and Chair of the UN Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change*

Oyun Sanjaasuren, *Director of External Affairs, Green Climate Fund*

Per Olsson Fridh, *Director General, Folke Bernadotte Academy*

Petra Tötterman Andorff, *Secretary General, Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation*

Robert Egnell, *Vice Chancellor, Swedish Defence University*

Sofia Corradi, *Civil Engineer, Specialist in Geoprocessing*

Stefan Löfven, *former Prime Minister of Sweden and Chair of the SIPRI Governing Board*

Sultan Al Shamsi, *Assistant Undersecretary, Ministry of Development and International Cooperation, United Arab Emirates*

Special thanks to Blaze Horn, Amelia Jade Premfors, Carolyne Wilhelm, Cecilia Natalie Strom, David Creelman, David Edberg Landeström, Jonathan Norton, Jonatan Weenink, Linnea Greven and Tor Richardson Golinski for their contributions to this brochure. Thank you also to Dr Liana Lopes from Uppsala University's Master's Programme in Peace and Conflict Studies for her collaboration and administrative support.

Recorded sessions are available to view on SIPRI's YouTube channel.



Partners of the Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development



The Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development is co-hosted by:



STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL
PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE



Government Offices of Sweden
Ministry for Foreign Affairs