



**Fighting Food Crises
along the HDP Nexus Coalition**

COP28 Key Takeaways

As the dust settles on the COP28, it is time to reflect some of the key takeaways from the various events. This document follows on the aide-memoire that was circulated to Coalition members ahead of COP28. It was prepared based on feedback from a few Coalition members who attended COP.

Unprecedented focus on relief, fragility and conflict

The HDP Nexus Coalition has been supporting the COP28 Declaration on Climate, Relief, Recovery and Peace and liaising with its Member States to facilitate their contribution and endorsement to the Declaration. The Secretariat also facilitated the participation of its civil society organisations to a presentation of the Declaration by the COP28 Presidency.

Among the 10 declarations launched during the COP28, the Climate, Relief, Recovery, and Peace Declaration was the fourth most endorsed, surpassing the expectations of the COP Presidency with 80 member states' endorsement.

In addition, forty-three organisations endorsed the Declaration, including several multilateral development banks. COP Declarations are non-negotiated outcome signed on by governments and organisations. Although Declarations are not binding, they offer very relevant entry points for advocacy.

The Climate, Relief, Recovery and Peace Declaration formalized a critical and overlooked issue in the COP28 agenda, initially included by Egypt at the COP27. It raised the importance of understanding the multifaceted aspects of crises and embedding resilience building, through solutions integrated to programme (including early warning, nature-based solutions, etc.).





COP28 Key Takeaways

There is a risk that this issue falls off the agenda of the COP29 in Azerbaijan and COP30 in Brazil. Additional work will be required to sustain the momentum created by the launch of the Declaration. Few options include developing advocacy messages built on a stronger connection between fragility and the broader environmental crisis, and using a food security lens to help keep the peace and security issue more safely on the next COPs' agenda. The upcoming Munich Security Conference in February 2024 may offer an opportunity to raise the importance of sustaining the focus on fragility in global climate discussions.

There was a substantive number of pledges from stakeholders for the implementation of the Declaration and related financing, which need to be followed up to see if there are concretely translated into action.

The UAE COP Presidency seems very committed to take forward this thematic. Discussions are ongoing to identify which structure could monitor the implementation. Reaching to multilateral development banks, building on some of the conversations that took place at the COP28, may also be a good avenue to shape the way climate funding will be operationalized.

Strong engagement of member states on food, agriculture and water

The COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems and Climate Action was the highest endorsed Declaration, with 159 member states signing to it, covering over 70% of global food production.

Although the agriculture Declaration took note of the UNFSS, it did not make specific reference to the National Food Systems Pathways. This link would be important to highlight to ensure coherence across various initiatives in fragile countries.

A number of initiatives were also announced and launched during the Food Agriculture and Water day (summary available [here](#)), which may be relevant to the advocacy work of the Coalition.

Upward trends in climate finance

Despite substantive pledges in climate finance (such as new commitments of 3 billion USD for the Green Climate Fund (GCF)), the COP28 fell short of bridging the gap on financing, and the funding lower-income countries need to adapt is remain significantly behind what is needed.

One of the key achievements of the COP28 was the establishment of Loss and Damage (L&D) fund with an initial, but insufficient, capitalization of over USD 665 million. It will be hosted by the World Bank ad interim, with an organisational board made up of 26 people from 14 developing countries and 12 developed countries to be constituted by end of January 2024. The World Bank needs to confirm to the board that it can meet the 11 conditions set out during the negotiations, as some of them deviate from the Bank's traditional way of working.

There was also an acknowledgment that processes to access existing climate finance were not adapted for fragile contexts actors, and that further flexibility is required, along with a review of conditionalities.