

A photograph showing a flooded rural area. In the background, there are several small, simple houses with corrugated metal roofs, partially submerged in water. In the foreground, two young children are standing on a muddy bank. One child is holding onto a makeshift boat made of wooden planks and sticks, which is partially in the water. The water is murky and reflects the sky. The overall scene suggests a community affected by flooding, likely due to climate change.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS & CLIMATE CHANGE

FOR EVERY CHILD
IN DANGER





"ALL THE DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN WIPED OUT...WE WILL HAVE TO START AGAIN"



FALLING THROUGH THE CRACKS...

- Children's rights overlooked in international and national policies on climate change
- Climate change overlooked in child protection policies and initiatives, e.g. children's healthcare
- But children & young people feel strongly!

BUT RECOGNITION IS EVOLVING...

States have obligations to...

- Protect against the harmful effects of climate change on children's rights
- Ensure that the measures they take in response to climate change respect children's rights

CRC GENERAL COMMENT NO. 15

“[Climate change] is one of the biggest threats to children’s health and exacerbates health disparities...States should, therefore, put children’s health concerns at the center of their climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.”

CRC CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS

- Detailed recommendations related to adaptation & disaster risk management policies
- Emphasis on participation & education
- International cooperation
- Beginning to address mitigation

PARIS AGREEMENT

A group of men in suits are shown in a celebratory mood, raising their hands and smiling. They are standing in front of a backdrop that features the United Nations logo and the text 'PARIS AGREEMENT'. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting an official event.

- “Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, **respect, promote and consider** their respective obligations on human rights...the rights of children...and **intergenerational equity.**”

OTHER INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

A background image showing two children standing in a small wooden boat on a body of water. The child on the left is wearing a light blue shirt and dark shorts, while the child on the right is wearing a light-colored patterned shirt and shorts. The water is calm, and the background is slightly blurred.

“Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning & management ...including focusing on ...**youth**”

– **Sustainable Development Goals**

“Children and youth are agents of change and should be given the space and modalities to contribute to disaster risk reduction”

– **Sendai Framework for DRR**

NEXT STEPS & BEST PRACTICE

A group of children, likely in a developing country, standing in a line. They are looking towards the camera with various expressions. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a rural or outdoor setting. The children are dressed in simple, everyday clothing.

- **Viet Nam** law on environmental protection incorporates children's best interests in context of green growth and climate change
- **Philippines** 2016 Children's Emergency Relief & Protection Act – specific care and protection of children affected by disasters

WHY IS TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE IMPORTANT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

“We only have one planet and have a duty to look after it, but not just for ourselves, but future generations too.”

“Please stop procrastinating. The future of our planet, and those living on it, is more important than profit”

“Vulnerable communities are facing danger due to droughts and flooding”