

The time to act is now: New report predicts 10 million climate deaths by 2030

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As the UN Climate Talks in Cancun wrap up their first week of meetings, there is only the faintest glimmer of progress being made towards a fair, ambitious and binding global climate deal.

While a global agreement deserves consideration and thought, a [new report released today](#) highlights the disparity at the heart of the climate crisis: these discussions take time, but it's time we may not have.

Developed in partnership between [DARA](#) and the [Climate Vulnerable Forum](#), the “[Climate Vulnerability Monitor](#)” provides a global overview of our susceptibility to short-term climate change, revealing vulnerabilities in 184 countries and all regions of the world.

The report uses a barometer to assess the estimated effects of climate change on each country's health, weather disasters, human habitat loss and economic stresses.

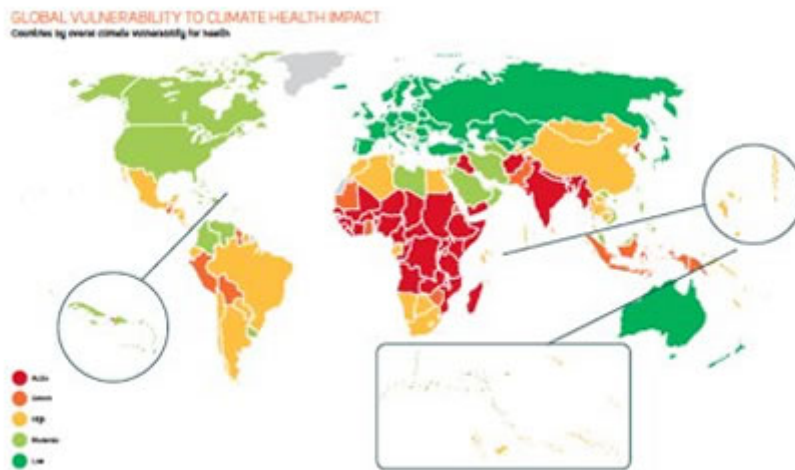
The results are startlingly bleak: The Climate Vulnerability Monitor predicts that twenty more years of inaction would lead to nearly 1 million climate deaths a year by 2030, with explosive growth in every major climate impact.

Among its predictions:

- In less than 20 years, more than 170 countries worldwide will see high vulnerability to at least one major climate impact as the planet heats up. 132 countries would register an overall factor of High vulnerability or above.

- Ten million people a year exposed to desertification and sea-level rise could lead to a relocation exodus.
- Economic costs would leap to 100 billion dollars of stress on the world's coastlines.
- 150 billion dollars worth of primary-sector and natural resource losses, and 10 billion dollars in storm, flood, and wildfire damages— in a third of a trillion dollar annual economic crisis.
- Every increase in vulnerability to climate change brings a greater likelihood of poverty, gender inequality, and lower human development.

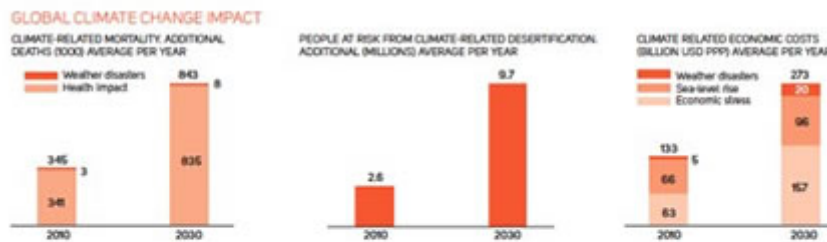
“The fate of the vulnerable will be the fate of the world”



When it comes to economic losses, industrialized nations will fare the worst from climate change, with the United States worst hit by overall damage costs. But climate change will seriously worsen global economic inequalities, particularly in regions like Africa, where poverty is most extreme.

“If we let pressures more than triple, or worse, no amount of humanitarian assistance or development aid is going to stem the suffering and devastation. Highly fragile countries will become graveyards over which we pour billions of dollars. Low-lying islands will simply not be viable anymore, then disappear. We will all pay and we will pay big time,” said DARA Director General Ross Mountain.

“Inaction is inexcusable”



**ALMOST EVERY COUNTRY HAS
HIGH VULNERABILITY TO ONE
MAJOR CLIMATE IMPACT.**

Despite its foreboding conclusions, the report clearly states that it is “well within our power to solve the climate crisis”, provided countries act boldly and quickly. Speaking at the launch of the report this morning in London, John Ashton, UK Special Representative for Climate Change said: “Failure to respond to climate change will intensify competition for resources and shrink the political space for cooperation. It is an affront to fairness, since it puts the greatest burden on those who did least to cause the problem and are least able to deal with its consequences.”

- **Read more on the report at [Mother Nature Network](#)**
- **Download the report [\[PDF\]](#)**