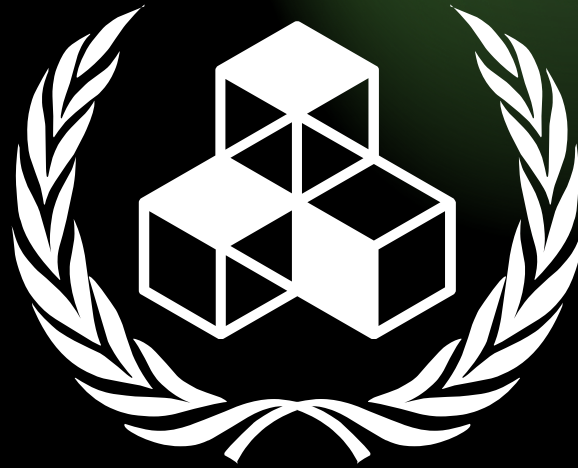


# BACKGROUND GUIDE



# UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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## AGENDA

*Promoting co-operation and co-ordination in international disaster management*



EDITION XII  
**CHIREC  
MUN '24**  
Represent • Reason • Resolve

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Greetings Delegates,

The Executive Board is pleased to welcome you to the United Nations Development Programme at ChirecMUN 2024! We would like to present this Background Guide to act solely as an accompaniment to your research efforts. Please bear in mind that this is a concise guide designed with the purpose of providing you a basic understanding of the agenda and the conduct of the simulation. Note that the perusal of the guide's content will be *insufficient* if you wish to experience a healthy and competitive debate.

We are available to clarify any and all doubts that you may have before the conference, however, we recommend querying us to be used as a last resort rather than a first option.

Regards,

The Executive Board,  
United Nations Development Programme

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# TIPS FOR FIRST TIMERS

## Research

In MUNs, preparation for debate is termed "research." Contrary to popular belief, you don't need to know every detail about your assigned country, such as its territory, finances, or rankings. Instead, focus on understanding your country's current government stance on the given issue and the history and context behind it—essentially, the foreign policy.

Your primary task is to comprehend your country's foreign policy on the topic at hand. A detailed explanation of foreign policy can be found in the relevant section of this guide.

Once you grasp your country's foreign policy, seek out literature, legal documents, and scholarly materials to justify and advance this stance. For example, if you are allotted India and the agenda of the committee is India and Pakistan's border dispute, you must try to find material that will justify India's claim that Kashmir belongs to India – the stance that the Indian government takes on the issue.

Use specific search terms to find relevant research materials. Using the aforementioned example, your ideal search terms would be 'India Pakistan border Indian legal claims pdf'. Including "pdf" helps bring up comprehensive and reliable research papers and scholarly studies rather than news sites or blogs.



# Diplomacy and “lobbying”

Delegates are expected to maintain decorum in committee at all times. Diplomacy is a key aspect of MUN conferences and delegates are expected to be aware of this fact. Delegates who are not diplomatic in nature during the proceedings of the committee are eligible for a demarcation by the Executive Board on the grounds of demeanour & diplomacy.

In MUNs, you learn to work with individuals from diverse backgrounds to build consensus and find lasting solutions to real-world problems. This process is called "lobbying" in MUNs.

As a delegate, your goal is to convince other delegates to support solutions that benefit both parties. When differences in foreign policies arise, it's your role to navigate these differences and build consensus through compromise, concession, or conciliation.

## Documentation

At the end of most MUN simulations, delegates work together to create formal documents that summarise the proceedings and offer solutions to the discussed issues.

To prepare, familiarise yourself with the syntax, structure, and purpose of these documents. Refer to the 'About the UNDP' section for a brief explanation of the allowed forms of documentation and their purposes.



# A note on Foreign Policy

Foreign policy is your country's goals and strategies regarding international relations and specific issues. It is crucial to understand this from the outset of your research, as it guides your arguments, reasoning, and actions in the committee.

Most of the time, foreign policy is not explicitly stated. It must be inferred from the actions and statements issued by the country. Start by reading records from previous UN meetings or statements from your country's Foreign Ministry and top leadership.

We urge you to focus on accurately representing your country's stance rather than modifying it. Remember, foreign policy can vary by issue, so be mindful of the nuances. For example, India and Pakistan may disagree on Kashmir but cooperate on climate change and trade. Understanding these subtleties will help you best represent your country's position.

We understand this may seem daunting at first, but trust us—it's simpler than it appears. Just leave your fears and anxieties behind, and approach it with confidence and your best effort.



# ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

## What is UNDP?

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) embodies Article 55 of the Charter of the United Nations (1945), which outlines the organisation's responsibility to promote "higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development," as prerequisites to peace. UNDP is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP's work is concentrated on three main focus areas:

- I. Sustainable development
- II. Democratic governance and peacebuilding
- III. Climate and disaster resilience

## Mandate of UNDP

UNDP's present mandate is "to empower lives and build resilient nations" for sustainable human development. UNDP does not adopt resolutions, instead, its work is carried out by its offices in different countries, which are focused on helping countries develop policies, institutional abilities, leadership skills, and resilience to achieve poverty eradication and the reduction of inequalities. To assist in these efforts, UNDP also administers and utilises the UN Volunteers program and the UN Capital Development Fund.



Partnerships are crucial to the work of UNDP as they enable UNDP to finance its various activities and implement projects. With a wide range of working areas including poverty reduction, crisis prevention, democratic governance, environmental protection, and human rights, UNDP can target the most important aspects for sustainable and equal human development with innovative strategies.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was established on the 22nd of November 1965, by the merger between the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and the Special Fund of 1958. The UNDP is a reporting agency, which reports to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Initially, UNDP focused its efforts on Economic and Social development before realising the impact disaster has on it. Later in the 80s, it started integrating Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategies into its projects. In the succeeding decades, there was an increased awareness of DRR with UNDPs initiatives like the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) and the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World.

In the 2000s, the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) was a major milestone which promoted resilience-building and integrating DRR into national policies, also enhancing its role in emergency responses to major disasters like the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and the 2010 Haiti earthquake.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030), continued the momentum into the 2010s with launching initiatives like “5-10-50 Initiative” for high-risk countries. In the 2020s, the UNDP has placed a significant emphasis on climate change adaptation, recognizing the increasing frequency and severity of climate-related disasters. It has prioritised integrating DRR into broader Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



# Outcome document

We will be accepting a Press Release as the outcome document of the conference. It is a simple document that summarises the proceedings and the discussion over the three days of the conference. It has no strict formatting requirements.

For the passing of a press release, the committee must vote unanimously in favour of its passage.

There are other documents that the UNDP publishes such as reports and project documents. Here is what a template for a project document looks like ([Template](#))

For the sake of convenience, we will only be accepting press releases and here is a ([sample press release](#))





# AGENDA: PROMOTING CO-OPERATION AND CO-ORDINATION IN INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT.

The UNDP operates in over 170 countries through agencies and localised branches. But before we can get to the meat of the matter, let us first help you understand what disaster management is. A disaster can be defined as any serious disruption to the functioning of a community or society at any scale due to various hazardous events leading to certain losses or impacts. Disaster management is simply the process of effectively preparing for and responding to such disasters. It occurs in a cyclic manner entailing the following 4 activities: Mitigation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery.

Most of the disaster management work done by the UNDP is locally implemented through both public and private sector organisations. For example, when El Niño hit Peru in early 2023, Hombro a Hombro an NGO part of the Connecting Business Initiative (CBI) Network which is a joint venture set up by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 2015, worked together with the National Institute of Civil defence (INDECI) and the Peruvian Navy aided in building a logistical bridge between the INDECI warehouse in Lima and the Callao naval base and further distribution from there. Hombro a Hombro delivered 1450 tonnes of aid in various forms, this clearly showed the requirement for private sector expertise in aiding disaster management activities.

Since its establishment, the CBI has mobilised over 115 million USD in funds assisting over 51 million people through engaging the private sector strategically before, during and after emergencies increasing the effectiveness of response and recovery.

The UNDP also heavily invests in disaster preparedness activities as 85% of the population exposed to disaster risk reside in developing countries, it believes in disaster preparedness at many levels including Communities, governments and even the UN.

# REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

As it's not possible for the Executive board of the UNDP to do your research for you here's a list of links to all the reading material the Executive Board went through or found interesting.

- [UNDP Annual Report 2023](#)
- [\(ISDR\) Disaster Risk Reduction in the United Nations 2009](#)
- [UNDP Issue Brief- Crisis Prevention and Recovery 2013](#)
- [INNOVATION IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT Leveraging Technology to Save More Lives \(OCHA and UNDP\) 2024](#)
- [\(OCHAandUNDP\)Connecting Business Initiative Annual Report 2023](#)
- [Disaster Risk and Resilience](#)
- [Annual report of the Administrator on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy in 2023](#)
- [Midterm review of the Strategic Plan, 2022-2025, including the annual report of the Administrator for 2023](#)

