

The Nexus Environmental Assessment Tool: NEAT+



What is the NEAT+ ?

A rapid and simple project-level environmental screening tool for humanitarian operations. It quickly assesses environmental vulnerabilities and impacts related to humanitarian response and proposes mitigations and development opportunities. It is specifically used when designing or adjusting longer-term emergency or recovery interventions to make them more sustainable.



R-NEAT+

Applied in humanitarian operations taking place in rural camp or non-camp settings. The Rural NEAT+ is available in French, English, and Spanish using Excel or Kobo Toolbox to complete the analysis.



U-NEAT+

Applied in humanitarian operations taking place in urban settings. The Urban NEAT+, which just got an update, is currently only available in English using the web application.

? Why NEAT+?

- A simple, user-friendly way for non-environmentalists to identify environmental concerns
- Flags key issues for subsequent mitigation and advocacy
- Open-source, based on Kobo toolbox, adaptable to individual or organizational needs



Who?

Humanitarian actors, e.g. field staff, community members and team leaders working in camp, peri-urban or rural noncamp or informal camp settings



When?

After life-saving needs have been met; immediately following a crisis and prior to project design, or during a change in humanitarian setting, such as an expansion of a camp or development of new livelihood support programmes

Step 1: Access NEAT+

Step 2: Choose

R-NEAT+

(Kobo Toolbox or Excel)

or

U-NEAT+

(Cloud-Based)

Step 3: Complete Sensitivity Module

Describe Activity Area

- Affected Community
- Crisis or Camp Condition
- Infrastructure and Services
- Climate
- Natural Environment
- Political & Economic Context

Results

- Environmental Sensitivity Summary
- Automatically displays issues of high, medium and low concern

Step 4: Continue Activity Modules

R-NEAT+

Activities

- Shelter
- WASH (water/hygiene)
- Food Security

U-NEAT+

Activities

- Shelter
- WASH (water/hygiene)
- Food Security
- Livelihood

Results

- Environmental Sensitivity Summary
- Activity Impact
- Impact Score

Results

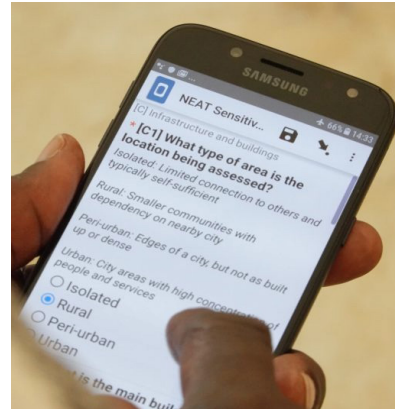
- Environmental Sensitivity Summary
- Activity Impact
- Impact Score

Step 5: Apply the Recommended Mitigation Measures



Download NEAT+

neatplus.org



A December 2018 pilot of the NEAT+ at the Mantapala refugee settlement in Zambia highlighted the use of wood for construction materials as a high risk factor for deforestation.

DISCLAIMER

NEAT+ results are not a substitute for a full environmental impact assessment (EIA) in such instances where full EIA are required or would offer benefit to inform project design and implementation. NEAT+ will not capture comprehensive consideration of issues that might arise via a full EIA process, nor remove the need to, and benefit derived from, engaging with environmental experts to fully understand the extent of considerations that may be relevant for a given project or broader response context.

NEAT+ was developed with the support of Joint Initiative partners:



JOINT ENVIRONMENT UNIT:

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) respond as one UN to the environmental dimensions of emergencies. The partnership assists countries affected by disasters and crises and works to enhance the sustainability of humanitarian action.

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