

U. S. Breaking News Report

Reporter Florence Akano,
Golfe TV Africa Correspondence Representative



Copy right Issue 071 Friday, September 10, 2021

Is There A Common Link Between Disasters And Human Activities?



A study conducted by the UN has proposed that the disasters occurring at different locations have a very deep-seated connection with human activities.

The study by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has revealed that human influence has impacted the climate in a way that is novel in its nature. Antonio Guterres, who is serving as Secretary-General of UN, termed it as "code red for humanity."

The evident examples such as heat waves in the Arctic and the cold waves in Texas revealed that the destabilization of the polar vortex made the cold air move towards North America. Similarly, the relation of Covid-19 and cyclones is another example. The Cyclone Amphan forced many people to stay in closed shelters, after which a spike in the Covid-19 cases became evident.

The causes identified for it include and are not limited to; inaptness regarding disaster risk-management, green-house gas emissions, and poor estimation of the environmental loss. The examples quoted above are primarily due to human-induced emission of greenhouse gases and inapt measures to deal with the disasters.

Jack O'Connor, a UNU scientist, says, *"What we can learn from this report is that disasters we see happening around the world are much more interconnected than we may realize, and they are also connected to individual behavior. Our actions have consequences, for all of us,"*

Also, it is advocated time and again that the problems are not only interconnected with each other. Rather, the solutions have quite a deep-seated interconnection with each other too. The solutions recommended by the reports show that cutting down the emission of harmful gases must be ensured. The outcome of which is the reduction in the severity of damage caused to the natural ecosystem.

Would Biden's Multitrillion-Dollar Safety Net Bill Pass As Quickly As They Want It To?



One of the Democratic aides said, *"The rubber is hitting the road in terms of shaping the policy and fine-tuning everything."*

The democratic leaders are working day in day out to create the draft of the multitrillion-dollar bill as soon as possible. They plan to move it in the House this week.

The summary of the legislative texts has revealed that the bill would focus especially on paid leaves for at least 12 weeks, along with an increase in the horizon of the Medicare benefits, such as the inclusion of hearing, vision, and dental treatment.

Regarding the challenging deadline, one of the Democrats said that *"We're at a place where the rubber is hitting the road in terms of shaping the policy and fine-tuning everything and really racing toward those deadlines. We're obviously setting an ambitious timeline, but we're moving forward to meet it."*

The team of the Democrats is working in coordination with the lawmakers in order to avoid any sort of hindrances that may come after they move the bill in the House. The democrats are of the view that they want to craft the bill in a way that they could get it passed in both houses.

The debate on the total volume of the bill is going around. Some democrats are of the view that \$3.5 trillion is too much, while others are hopeful that it would get passed by the House. The bill is supposed to cover all the shortcomings in the prior medical allowances and wants to ensure maximum relief to the ones who need it the most.

Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill., told reporters Tuesday that she believes all 50 Democratic-voting members, including Manchin, will ultimately come together.

"I don't have real concerns. I think Joe is doing what Joe needs to do for himself, for his state, and you're going to see other senators probably do some of this, as well," she said. "I think at the end of the day, there'll be 50 votes. But I think we're going to go through a very healthy, loud family discussion about it."

Afghan Resettlement, Disaster Recovery; Is White House Seeking More Funds?



The burden of evacuating and accommodating thousands of refugees from Afghanistan and the natural disasters, including Hurricane Ida, has left the White House with no option but to ask for a minimum of \$30 billion helping funds to combat these immediate challenges.

The administration official, while talking to the reporters, said that a \$6.4 billion fund would be allocated for the resettlement of the refugees from Afghanistan while \$24 billion is needed for the recovery from the natural disasters. Out of those \$24 billion, \$14 billion will be allocated to recover from natural disasters and \$10 billion from Hurricane Ida.

President Biden had a tough time during August as he was battling at two very challenging fronts simultaneously. As the Taliban succeeded in "wrapping up" things faster than expected, the United States had no choice but to evacuate 124000 Afghans and Americans from Afghanistan

immediately. On the other hand, the country had to deal with the deadly fires in the Western States, which wreaked havoc in New Jersey, New York, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

The Government is expected to bring 64000 Afghans in the U.S during this month and 30000 more in the coming 12 months. The fund for Afghan refugees will be spent for different purposes, including transportation costs, public health screenings, vaccinations, humanitarian screening, helping the refugees to set up new homes for themselves, etc.

The Government official further added that the amount requested for Ida recovery is just an initial estimate, and the administration is looking forward to collaborating with Congress to come up with a more specific number.

“We fully expect that Hurricane Ida will significantly increase the need for disaster response funding by at least \$10 billion,” the official said. “And while it will take time to assess the damage and to arrive at a more specific estimate, we are committed to working with Congress to address those needs as well.”

Report by:

Florence Akano _ Humanitarian and Freelance Journalist

Olivier Noudjalbaye Dedingar _ Technical Expert, Humanitarian and Freelance Journalist