

**Invitation to attend**

***Environment in Humanitarian Action Panel Discussion***

***ECOSOC side event***

*Avoiding the tragedy of the commons: how to improve aid effectiveness by mainstreaming environmental sustainability*

**Monday 23 June 2014**

**13:15 - 14:30**

United Nations Headquarters, New York

Room E NLB

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**Launch of the study**

***“Environment in Humanitarian Action: increasing effectiveness, sustainability and accountability”***

A panel discussion introduced by Ms. Anna Gebremedhin, Director, Unit for Humanitarian Assistance, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland and moderated by Ms. Wendy Cue, Chief, Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit

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The environment is everybody’s responsibility, while at the same time no one is held accountable, has resulted in the tragedy of the commons of the humanitarian sector. A panel, representing major humanitarian stakeholders including affected communities, the UN, NGOs and donors, will discuss the recommendations of the recent study “Environment in Humanitarian Action: increasing effectiveness, sustainability and accountability” and examine practical ways to improve aid effectiveness through mainstreaming environmental sustainability.

**Panel members:**

**Mr. Rashid Khalikov, Director for UN OCHA Geneva**

**Ms. Anita van Breda, Director for Humanitarian Partnerships, WWF-US**

**Ms. Sarah Costa, Executive Director of the Women’s Refugee Commission**

*The event is hosted and organised by the Government of Finland (co-chair of the Good Humanitarian Donorship group), together with the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit.*