

Associação pela Saúde Emocional de Crianças _ASEC

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Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

These **youths and future generations** have been increasingly exposed, particularly in 2023, to **climate or environmental hazards**, directly suffering health impacts from climate-related issues. Although an under-researched area, specialists globally are recognizing the profound impact of environmental disasters on mental health and emotional well-being. **Managing the mental health consequences of climate change is becoming increasingly critical and urgently needs addressing within the “*Pact for the Future*”.** This action isn't solely about saving young people, youth, and future generations, but also about ensuring their human rights.

UNICEF reports UNICEF reports that almost every child (>99%) is now exposed to at least one climate or environmental hazard, with approximately 1 billion children, nearly half of the world's children, living in countries considered at 'extremely high-risk' for climate change impacts.²

Global Mental Health Action Network (GMHAN) Advocacy Briefs shed light on how **the Environmental context and Climate change** are “**deeply interconnected, and in fact inseparable area**” and **constitute a current crisis**. Both factors are arguably the most significant threats to global health, and it's needed to highlight that per the WHO's stance, “there is no health without mental health.” Evidence is emerging that presents a threatening context, primarily for the youth population in low-and middle-income countries (LMICs) concerning mental health and psychosocial well-being.

Despite the impact of