

Lindsey Paul Jones

Climate change, fragility and crisis risk

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OVERVIEW

Senior climate change and crisis-risk specialist with more than 15 years of experience across the World Bank, UK government, leading think tanks and academia. Leads the design and coordination of the World Bank's internal conflict and fragility risk-monitoring system and prepares quarterly inputs for senior leadership. Work spans climate finance in fragile settings, conflict forecasting and early warning, disaster and crisis preparedness, resilience measurement, and the operational use of AI and risk analytics. Experienced in managing multidisciplinary teams, mobilising donor resources and translating research into country operations, institutional guidance and international partnerships.

CORE EXPERTISE

Conflict and fragility risk monitoring | Climate finance in fragile settings | Disaster and crisis preparedness | Resilience and adaptation | Forecasting and scenario analysis | AI and risk analytics | Operational decision support | Programme and team leadership | Partnerships and resource mobilisation

QUALIFICATIONS

- 2020 **PhD, Environmental Policy and Development**
Thesis: Novel Approaches to Measuring Resilience to Climate Extremes
London School of Economics and Political Science
- 2009 **MSc with Distinction, Nature, Society and Environmental Policy**
University of Oxford
- 2008 **BSc Honours, Environmental Geography and International Development**
University of East Anglia

POSTS

- Jan 2023 - present **SENIOR CLIMATE CHANGE SPECIALIST | WORLD BANK GROUP | FRAGILITY, CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE GROUP**
Research, Evidence and Diagnostics Unit
Conflict and fragility risk monitoring
 - Lead the design and coordination of the World Bank's internal conflict and fragility risk-monitoring system, flagging countries at risk of current or future deterioration, coordinating inputs across

WBG units and preparing quarterly analysis for senior leadership.

- Integrate model-based forecasts, structured monitoring, country intelligence and expert validation across 12- and 36-month horizons, drawing together economic, risk, security, operational, IFC and MIGA perspectives.
- Direct an institution-wide monitoring workstream that combines trusted media, conflict-event data, contextual indicators and expert judgement to identify escalation pathways and translate risk signals into decision-ready country and portfolio briefings.

Climate finance, resilience and operational support

- Co-lead the World Bank's flagship programme on the peace and social dividends of climate action, connecting evidence on conflict, climate and social cohesion with operational guidance and country applications.
- Founded and chair a multilateral working group on accelerating access to climate and risk finance in fragile settings, convening climate funds, multilateral development banks, bilateral partners and UN-linked actors.
- Lead analytical work on adaptation-finance trends in fragile and conflict-affected settings and support country teams to integrate climate, disaster and FCV considerations into diagnostics and operations.

AI, programme leadership and partnerships

- Serve as the FCV Group focal point for large language models and early-warning applications, leading risk-summarisation and project-screening tools that combine quantitative and qualitative evidence with expert validation and human review.
- Lead a multi-location team of more than 15 specialists and consultants, with responsibility for work planning, budget allocation, recruitment, quality assurance and performance oversight across concurrent analytical and operational workstreams.
- Mobilised grant and bilateral financing for conflict, climate and preparedness analytics, and served as World Bank focal point for the COP28 Relief, Recovery and Peace Declaration and climate-FCV engagement at COP29.

Jan 2021 - **SENIOR OPERATIONS OFFICER | WORLD BANK GROUP**

Jan 2023 *Global Crisis Risk Platform*

- Led the operational uptake of climate, disaster and conflict-risk evidence across fragile and conflict-affected portfolios, translating quantitative analysis, country intelligence and expert input into decision-ready advice.
- Embedded FCV analysis in country diagnostics and operational processes, including work in Burundi, South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, Haiti, Niger and Chad, and served as formal peer reviewer

for major diagnostics in Somalia and Yemen.

- Authored guidance on integrating FCV considerations into Country Climate and Development Reports, subsequently used across country teams and adapted with IFC.
- Directed FCV reviews of crisis-preparedness plans linked to early-response financing and led the analytical design of the Crisis Preparedness Gap Analysis methodology, later incorporated into the GFDRR toolkit.
- Coordinated regional horizon scanning and developed the Compound Risk Monitor, tracking more than 50 indicators across conflict, disaster, climate and macro-fiscal risk to support anticipatory action and portfolio oversight.

Jan 2020 - **SENIOR DISASTER AND CLIMATE RISK SPECIALIST | WORLD**
Jan 2021 **BANK GROUP | GLOBAL CRISIS RISK PLATFORM**

Extended Term Consultant

- Supported the design and early implementation of compound-risk monitoring and regional horizon-scanning systems that combined quantitative indicators with structured expert input.
- Developed indicator-selection and country risk-profiling logic and supported methodological links with external monitoring frameworks, including INFORM, ACAPS and WFP.
- Produced operational diagnostics and management briefings combining climate, disaster, conflict and macro-fiscal evidence.

Jun 2020 - **RESEARCH ASSOCIATE | LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**

2022 *Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment*

- Led applied research on disaster risk reduction, resilience measurement, institutional preparedness and the operational use of evidence in climate and development policy.
- Published in journals including Nature Sustainability, Nature Climate Change and Global Environmental Change.

Jan 2014 - **RESEARCH FELLOW | OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE**

Dec 2019 *Climate and Environment Programme*

- Principal Investigator and Secretariat Lead for Future Climate for Africa, coordinating a GBP20 million portfolio of eight interdisciplinary research teams and translating probabilistic and scenario-based climate information into decision support for African governments.
- Designed and led rapid-response research under the BRACED programme, using high-frequency mobile-phone surveys to track household recovery following disasters in Myanmar.
- Co-managed multi-country resilience partnerships with government, humanitarian and research actors, including collaboration with the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre to integrate risk information into local planning in conflict-affected

areas.

- Managed permanent research staff and international teams, with responsibility for recruitment, performance management, programme learning and delivery quality.

Jan 2016 - **CLIMATE SCIENCE LEAD | UK DEPARTMENT FOR**
Jul 2016 **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT | AFRICA REGIONAL**
DEPARTMENT

Research and Evidence Division

- Advised on climate risk, resilience and science-to-policy translation and helped coordinate and evaluate a GBP35 million portfolio of climate-services and resilience activities.

Jan 2010 - **RESEARCH OFFICER | OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE**

Jan 2014 *Climate and Environment Programme*

- Conducted applied research and policy analysis on disaster risk reduction, adaptive capacity and climate information across Africa and Asia.
- Co-managed the Africa Climate Change Resilience Alliance, working with government and humanitarian partners to integrate risk evidence into planning in fragile and conflict-affected areas.
- Contributed monitoring and evidence inputs to international disaster-risk policy processes linked to the Hyogo and Sendai frameworks.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Visiting Scientist, CSIRO, Australia (2018) | Visiting Fellow, ILRI and CGIAR CCAFS, Kenya (2014) | National Adaptation Programme of Action Team Member, UNDP and Government of Nepal (2009) | Climate Research Intern, UN World Food Programme, Nepal (2009)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Author of more than 25 peer-reviewed articles and 40 working papers on disaster risk reduction, resilience measurement, climate services, climate finance and risk analytics, with more than 6,800 citations on Google Scholar.

- Barron, P., Jones, L. P. and El Horr, J. (2026). Maximizing the Peace and Social Dividends of Climate Action. World Bank.
- Jones, L. P., Banga, J., Notkin, B. S. and Brochen, A. G. J. (2024). Closing the Gap: Trends in Adaptation Finance for Fragile and Conflict-Affected Settings. World Bank Group.
- Bucherie, A., Kruckiewicz, A., Jones, L. and Adam, B. (2022). Country-Level Seasonal Threat Profiles: Operationalizing Seasonal Forecasts into Decision-Relevant Risk Metrics. World Bank Global Crisis Risk Platform.
- Jones, L., Constanas, M. A., Matthews, N. and Verkaart, S. (2021). Advancing Resilience Measurement. Nature Sustainability.

- Jones, L. and Ballon, P. (2020). Tracking Changes in Resilience and Recovery after Natural Hazards: Insights from a High-Frequency Mobile-Phone Panel Survey. Global Environmental Change.

SKILLS AND AFFILIATIONS

Technical Risk monitoring and scenario analysis; early-warning systems; applied machine learning and large-language-model workflows; R; Python; data visualisation; qualitative and mixed-methods research; monitoring, evaluation and learning.

Languages English, mother tongue; French, fluent; Kiswahili, basic.

Affiliations and awards Finance and Policy Committee, World Adaptation Science Programme; Evidence for Decisions Scientific Steering Committee, REDDI. Awards include ESRC full PhD funding, the Kellogg College Alumni Award and the Tropical Agriculture Association Award.