

Environment in Humanitarian Action Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. Which factor increases exposure to secondary hazards like landslides for displaced populations?**
 - A. Location of temporary shelters**
 - B. Improper soil stabilization**
 - C. Early warning systems**
 - D. Road safety measures**

- 2. In disaster response, why must humanitarian actors consider environmental context?**
 - A. It affects how response and early recovery is conducted**
 - B. It has no effect**
 - C. It only affects logistics**
 - D. It only affects long-term planning**

- 3. Where would clusters be advised to go to obtain more information on the environment in humanitarian work?**
 - A. The Cluster Environmental Guidelines**
 - B. An Environmental Information Portal**
 - C. All answers listed**
 - D. The Local Government Environment Office**

- 4. What is recommended for restoring agricultural livelihoods?**
 - A. Assess possibility of crop diversification; educate local farmers on the benefits of biodiversity**
 - B. Contamination from industrial sites**
 - C. Poaching**
 - D. Drilling wells**

- 5. Which is a water scarcity issue in Forestland?**
 - A. Insufficient amounts of water**
 - B. Water pollution**
 - C. Soil erosion from water and wind**
 - D. Landslides**

- 6. Which factor can increase the risk of landslides for displaced populations?**
- A. Location of temporary shelters**
 - B. Use of non-wood materials**
 - C. Clean water provision**
 - D. Vaccination programs**
- 7. Which DRR measure is explicitly linked to disaster risk reduction in forestland planning?**
- A. Re-plant forests as a DRR measure and cash-for-work program**
 - B. Contact the JEU for additional expertise in assessment and mitigation measures**
 - C. Install rainwater containers**
 - D. Educate local farmers on biodiversity**
- 8. Which practice could lead to contamination of land and water by human waste?**
- A. Rapid construction of latrines**
 - B. Delayed latrine construction**
 - C. Composting toilets**
 - D. Improved sewage treatment**
- 9. Which is a direct environmental impact listed in Forestland?**
- A. Chemical spillage and contamination**
 - B. Loss of livelihoods in the agricultural sector**
 - C. Flooding**
 - D. Large amounts of waste**
- 10. Which is a water issue in Forestland?**
- A. Water pollution**
 - B. Deforestation**
 - C. Soil erosion**
 - D. Noise pollution**

Answers

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1. A
2. A
3. C
4. A
5. A
6. A
7. A
8. A
9. A
10. A

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Explanations

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1. Which factor increases exposure to secondary hazards like landslides for displaced populations?

A. Location of temporary shelters

B. Improper soil stabilization

C. Early warning systems

D. Road safety measures

The main idea here is how the siting of shelters affects a displaced population's risk from secondary hazards like landslides. If temporary shelters are placed on or near unstable ground—steep slopes, deforested hillsides, areas with poor drainage—the ground can fail when heavy rain or seismic shaking occurs. A landslide can sweep through tents and shelters, block routes for aid, trap people, and cause injuries or fatalities. So, choosing stable, well-drained locations away from high-risk slopes directly reduces exposure and keeps aid access clearer. Early warning systems, by contrast, help people evacuate before a landslide happens, which reduces exposure rather than increasing it. Road safety measures primarily address hazards on transport routes rather than the landslide danger itself. Improper soil stabilization would raise risk, but it's about how a site is engineered rather than where the shelter is placed overall; and in the context of exposure for displaced populations, the most immediate factor is where the shelters are located.

2. In disaster response, why must humanitarian actors consider environmental context?

A. It affects how response and early recovery is conducted

B. It has no effect

C. It only affects logistics

D. It only affects long-term planning

Understanding environmental context helps us plan and carry out relief fast, safely, and in a way that lasts. The weather, terrain, hazards, water availability, soils, and ecosystems in a place shape what needs to be done first, where to locate shelters or distribution points, and which water, sanitation, and energy solutions will work. They also influence how logistics are organized, the accessibility of affected areas, and the timing of interventions. Importantly, environmental context guides risk-informed decisions that link immediate response with early recovery, helping communities rebound in ways that reduce future disaster losses and protect livelihoods. If environment isn't considered, responses can be inappropriate or even harmful—such as placing shelters in flood-prone areas or selecting interventions that don't fit seasonal access or local ecological conditions.

3. Where would clusters be advised to go to obtain more information on the environment in humanitarian work?

- A. The Cluster Environmental Guidelines
- B. An Environmental Information Portal
- C. All answers listed**
- D. The Local Government Environment Office

In humanitarian work, getting a full picture of environmental considerations means drawing on multiple credible sources that cover different aspects. The Cluster Environmental Guidelines provide standardized methods for how to assess environmental risks, incorporate environment into planning, and implement mitigation across response activities. An Environmental Information Portal offers centralized access to data, tools, and best practices, helping staff quickly find relevant information and compare approaches. The Local Government Environment Office supplies local regulatory context, ecological data, and on-the-ground insights about the environment and permitting requirements that ensure actions fit the local setting. Together, these sources give a comprehensive information base, so consulting all of them is the best approach to obtain thorough environmental information in humanitarian work.

4. What is recommended for restoring agricultural livelihoods?

- A. Assess possibility of crop diversification; educate local farmers on the benefits of biodiversity**
- B. Contamination from industrial sites
- C. Poaching
- D. Drilling wells

Restoring agricultural livelihoods is most effective when farming systems are diversified and farmers understand how biodiversity supports productivity. When crops are diversified, a household isn't tied to the fate of a single harvest. If one crop fails due to drought, pests, or market fluctuations, others can still provide income and food. Diversity also promotes healthier soils, better nutrient cycling, and more stable yields through a mix of root structures, organic matter, and habitat for beneficial organisms. Educating local farmers about biodiversity reinforces these benefits. By recognizing the roles of pollinators, natural enemies of pests, and soil microbes, farmers can adopt practices that enhance ecosystem services, reduce the need for chemical inputs, and build resilience against shocks. In humanitarian contexts, this approach supports longer-term recovery and helps communities withstand future stresses. The other options don't align with building sustainable farming livelihoods. Contamination from industrial sites would undermine farming and require remediation. Poaching harms wildlife and ecosystems rather than supporting agricultural recovery. Drilling wells addresses water access but isn't, by itself, a comprehensive or sustainable strategy for restoring livelihoods through diversified, biodiversity-aware farming.

5. Which is a water scarcity issue in Forestland?

- A. Insufficient amounts of water**
- B. Water pollution**
- C. Soil erosion from water and wind**
- D. Landslides**

Water scarcity focuses on not having enough usable water to meet needs, especially during dry periods or in areas where demand outstrips supply. In Forestland, this can happen even when water sources exist if rainfall is erratic, streams run low, or demand from communities and ecosystems is high, leading to shortages. This is different from water pollution, which is about contaminants making water unsafe to use, not about how much water is available. Similarly, soil erosion from water and wind or landslides relate to soil stability and hazards, not the actual quantity of water. So the issue described by insufficient amounts of water best captures scarcity.

6. Which factor can increase the risk of landslides for displaced populations?

- A. Location of temporary shelters**
- B. Use of non-wood materials**
- C. Clean water provision**
- D. Vaccination programs**

Where displaced people are housed matters because slope stability, drainage, and ground conditions around shelter sites determine how vulnerable they are to slope failures. If temporary shelters are placed on or near steep, unstable hillsides, in deforested areas, or in places with poor drainage, rainfall or seismic shaking can saturate the soil and trigger landslides, putting people and shelters at risk. This is why the location of where shelters are set up is the factor that can increase landslide risk. The other options don't directly affect slope stability. Using non-wood materials pertains to construction choices and durability but doesn't inherently change the likelihood of a landslide. Providing clean water or running vaccination programs mainly impact health and disease prevention, not the physical stability of the land or slopes around a camp.

7. Which DRR measure is explicitly linked to disaster risk reduction in forestland planning?

- A. Re-plant forests as a DRR measure and cash-for-work program**
- B. Contact the JEU for additional expertise in assessment and mitigation measures**
- C. Install rainwater containers**
- D. Educate local farmers on biodiversity**

Restoring forest cover directly supports disaster risk reduction within forestland planning. Re-planting forests creates protective barriers on slopes, stabilizes soils, and enhances watershed function, which reduces the intensity and impact of hazards like landslides, floods, and erosion. This makes communities less exposed to disasters and improves resilience over the long term. When you add a cash-for-work element, you're linking restoration with livelihoods, helping communities participate in risk-reducing activities while earning income, which supports faster recovery and sustained protection of the landscape. The other options don't embed a risk-reduction action into forestland planning in the same way. Seeking external expertise is a procedural step, not a direct protective measure in the land-use plan. Installing rainwater containers relates to water management but not specifically to forestland risk reduction. Educating farmers on biodiversity is valuable for ecosystem health, but it isn't an explicit DRR action tied to forestland planning.

8. Which practice could lead to contamination of land and water by human waste?

- A. Rapid construction of latrines**
- B. Delayed latrine construction**
- C. Composting toilets**
- D. Improved sewage treatment**

The main point is that sanitation facilities must be planned, properly sited, and well built to contain human waste. When latrines are constructed rapidly without careful design and assessment, important safeguards can be skipped. You might end up with pits that aren't lined or sealed, walls or slabs that leak, and waste that isn't safely contained. If pits are placed too close to water sources, flood-prone areas, or surface water, fecal material can infiltrate groundwater or run off into rivers and streams. In short, haste undermines containment and maintenance, creating pathways for human waste to contaminate land and water. Composting toilets and improved sewage treatment, by contrast, are designed with containment and treatment in mind, reducing the chance of contamination. Delaying latrine construction can also pose risks through open defecation, but the specific contamination risk highlighted here comes from failing to properly design and site latrines due to rapid, unplanned construction.

9. Which is a direct environmental impact listed in Forestland?

- A. Chemical spillage and contamination**
- B. Loss of livelihoods in the agricultural sector**
- C. Flooding**
- D. Large amounts of waste**

The key idea is distinguishing immediate changes to the environment from downstream socio-economic effects. A direct environmental impact is a physical, observable change to the environment itself caused by an event in the forestland area. Chemical spillage and contamination fit this best because a spill introduces hazardous substances directly into soil, water, or air, causing immediate pollution and disruption of ecosystems. It's a tangible alteration to the environment that happens right where the incident occurred, and it can harm both wildlife and human health through direct exposure or contact. Loss of livelihoods in the agricultural sector, while a serious consequence, is a socio-economic outcome that results from environmental damage rather than a physical change to the environment itself. Flooding, although environmental, is typically considered a hazard or a broader consequence rather than a direct environmental change in this framing. So the direct environmental change listed is chemical spillage and contamination.

10. Which is a water issue in Forestland?

- A. Water pollution**
- B. Deforestation**
- C. Soil erosion**
- D. Noise pollution**

Understanding water-related issues in forest areas hinges on recognizing water quality and water availability as central concerns. Water pollution is a direct problem for Forestland because it means contaminants—chemicals, waste, pathogens, and sediment—enter streams, rivers, and groundwater, degrading drinking water, harming aquatic life, and affecting communities that rely on clean water. Forests can help protect water quality through buffer zones and proper management, but pollution overwhelms those protections and illustrates a clear water-specific threat. Deforestation can worsen water issues by increasing surface runoff and sediment flow into water bodies, and soil erosion contributes sediment that clouds and harms waterways, but these are processes that lead to water problems rather than a direct water quality issue themselves. Noise pollution, on the other hand, does not affect water resources.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://enviinhumanitarianaction.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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