Health Professionals: COP26 Advocacy COP26 Health Programme

29th September 2021

Alison Cox Global Climate and Health Alliance



"Code Red for Humanity"



Rationale

To restrict temperature rise to 1.5°C by 2050, rapid and strong change needed this decade - starting right now

All parts of national and global society must engage to build momentum for the necessary change

Health Sector can - and must - play a vital role

Compelling Health and Climate Messages

Climate Crisis is a Health Emergency

Climate is the "Greatest global health threat of the 21st Century" (*The Lancet*)
Health impacts are happening now and will get far worse

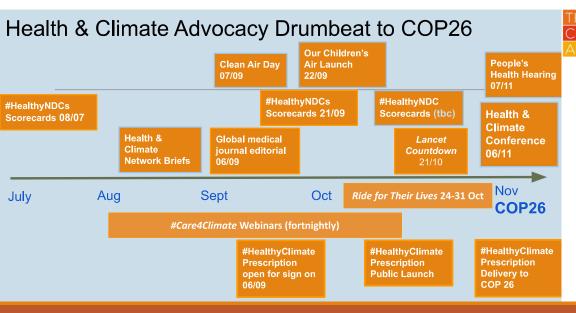
Climate Action Benefits Health

Health co-benefits of climate action address major health challenges

Benefits are greater if health and equity explicitly embedded - 'health in all policies'

Health cost savings from cleaner air, healthy sustainable diets, active transport can offsets costs of mitigation

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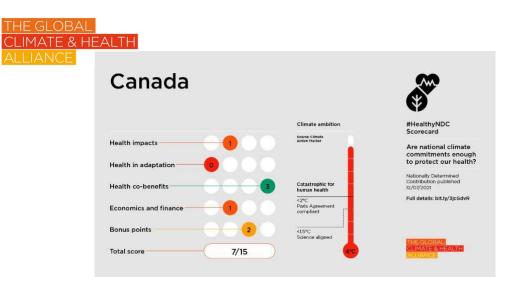
THE GLOBAL
CLIMATE & HEALTH
ALLIANCE
#Hea

#HealthyNDCs Scorecard

- Ranks 67 Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) covering 93 countries.
- Extent to which NDCs recognise and respond to the abundant linkages with health.
- Ensuring integration of health into climate policy:
 - o protects populations,
 - maximises economic benefits
 - builds public backing for ambitious climate policies

ClimateandHealthAlliance.org

@GCHAlliance







Medical Journals Editorial 6th September

- Coordinated publication across 220+ international journals including
 - o The Lancet,
 - East African Medical Journal.
 - o Chinese Science Bulletin.
 - New England Journal of Medicine,
 - International Nursing Review,
 - National Medical Journal of India.
 - o British Medical Journal, and many others.



Medical Journals Editorial 6th September

bit.ly/3n9w8Dr.

Main points:

- Health is already being harmed by the environmental crisis
- Emergency action is needed to transform societies and economies
- Vast health benefits could be realised
- Equity must be at the centre of the global response
 - High Income Countries must cut emissions further and faster
 - Meet and go beyond US\$100 billion per year

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Medical Journals Editorial 6th September

- Significant Global Media Coverage over 700 articles including:
 - o BBC, CNN, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal,
- Social Media support:
 - o Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Greta Thunberg, UNFCCC
- Welcomed by AOSIS, LDC Group and CVF



- Developed by a group of health professional organisations
- Addressed to heads of government and national delegations at COP26
- Sign-on from
 - Health professional organisations
 - Individual health professionals
- Press launch is planned 11th October
- Follow up comms to COP delegations
- Delivery in person by Health Professionals at COP26