



WHO Media Advisory

Thursday's health and climate event highlights at COP27!

Urgent action to strengthen climate change education for all health professionals

10 November 2022, 10:00-11:15 EET

The Capacity Building Subcommittee of the WHO-Civil Society Working Group to Advance Action on Climate Change and Health in partnership with the Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education, launched a special call for strengthening climate change education for all health professionals, together with an Open Letter with recommendations to all health education stakeholders in June 2022.

This event will highlight the importance of climate change education in building the capacity of health professionals for better preparedness and responses to the climate crisis.

Speakers will include Cecilia Sorensen, Director, Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education, Columbia University, SanYuMay Tun, Lead for Education for Sustainable Healthcare, Medical Sciences Division, University of Oxford and Poornima Prabhakaran, Head, Environmental Health and Director, Environmental Health, Public Health Foundation of India (PHFA).

Location: Health Pavilion, Zone C, Pavilion 4, Blue Zone.

Health and climate change: one health for all: "one vision and one response"

10 November 2022, 11:00-11:50 EET

The session addresses the interconnectivity of the different pillars of *One Health* approach to sustainably balance, protect and strengthen human, animal, and ecosystem health.

Discussion among panelists will focus on the most tangible impacts present globally related to one health approach as zoonotic disease, food poisoning, and antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and discusses potential innovative approaches, and protocols, working across borders to extrapolate a strong foundation and define clear action plans that can demonstrate global commitments to the nature and the biodiversity.

Speakers will include Dr Maria Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General, FAO, and the representative of the quadripartite collaboration for One Health "FAO, UNEP, WHO, and WOA", Ms Inger Andersen, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive

Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Dr Maria Neira, Director for Environment, Climate Change and Health, WHO.

Location: COP27 Presidential Pavilion, Blue Zone.

From Evidence to Policy and Action: regional perspectives on responses to climate change impacts on health

10 November 2022, 11:30-12:45 EET

Scientific evidence is unequivocal: climate change is the greatest global health threat of the 21st century. While the science on climate change and its impact on human health is clear, there is considerable work needed at the interface between research, policy making and its translation into on the ground programming.

This event will explore gaps in implementation research on risk and response to climate impacts on health, explore regional approaches, challenges and lessons learnt, as well as focus on the role of implementation science in public health decision making. Talks will be followed by a panel discussion on the common challenges faced by researchers and public health practitioners.

Speakers will include Dr. Stella Hartinger, Director of Lancet Countdown, South America, Dr. Renee Salas MD - Harvard University and Senior Author of the Lancet Countdown Policy Report, United States of America and Dr. Revati Phalkey - Honorary Associate Professor for Global Health, Heidelberg Institute for Global Health.

Location: Health Pavilion, Zone C, Pavilion 4, Blue Zone.

Partnerships beyond the health sector for accelerating the uptake of scientific knowledge

10 November 2022, 14:00-15:15 EET

This transdisciplinary event will i) highlight the importance of action on climate change for human health and wellbeing benefits, and ii) provide examples of partnerships that can provide the types of rapid and urgent transformations that we need in order to safeguard our future. The panellists represent research, practitioner and policy perspectives and will all bring different case studies of partnerships and the science - policy - practice nexus. The purpose is to strengthen understanding across and within sectors about the fundamental importance of collaboration and partnerships beyond the health sector. Panellists will speak briefly on their topic area, and discussion from the audience will follow.

Panel chair: Kathryn Bowen, Professor - Melbourne Climate Futures & Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne

Speakers will include Kathryn Bowen, Professor - Melbourne Climate Futures & Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne, Dr Chandni Singh, Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) & Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and Dr Diarmid Campbell-Lendrum, Head of Climate Change and Health Unit, WHO.

Location: Health Pavilion, Zone C, Pavilion 4, Blue Zone.

Press conference - Our Kids'Climate and Parents For Future

10 November 2022, 15:00-15:30 EET

Mothers from Our Kids'Climate and Parents For Future Global - two networks uniting parents to act on climate - will make a heart-felt plea to world leaders to put children's health, rights and futures at the heart of the COP27 climate summit.

The mothers speaking at the press conference are: Bhavreen Kandari (Warrior Moms, India), Xoli Fuyani (Black Girls Rising/Our Kids' Climate, South Africa), Maya Mailer (Co-Director of Our Kids' Climate and co-founder of UK climate parent group Mothers' Rise Up) alongside Lais Fleury from the Alana Institute. They will be joined by Dr Maria Neira, Director for Environment, Climate Change and Health, WHO.

Location: The Press Conference Room - Luxor, Area B, Taba Area, Blue Zone, COP27

Wildland Fires: Planetary and Public Health Solutions

10 November 2022, 18:30-19:30 EET

From 1979 to 2022, fire seasons lengthened across 25.3% of the Earth's vegetated surface, resulting in an 18.7% increase in the mean length of the global fire season. Wildfires cause significant air pollution, loss of water, loss of wildlife, loss of biodiversity, and loss of human lives, and these fires increase greenhouse gas emissions, further exacerbating climate change. As climate change increases the likelihood of catastrophic fires occurring, this leads to a vicious circle of ever-escalating wildfires and global warming.

This session will focus on solutions-facing topics with policy-oriented outcomes, especially with LMICs. Discussion topics include: wildfire and health risks, especially focusing on vulnerable populations; best practice monitoring and alert systems and SDG framework solutions for promoting resiliency in LMIC and other communities at risk of wildfires.

Speakers will include Juan Castilla, PAHO, Chris Field- Woods Institute, Stanford and Mazen Malkawi-Wildland Fire expert, Middle East region.

Location: Health Pavilion, Zone C, Pavilion 4, Blue Zone.

More information

Keep up to date on the WHO Health-Climate events happening across COP27, please see more information here: <https://www.who.int/news/item/03-11-2022-highlights-of-some-health-key-health-events-at-cop27>

For the programme and brochure of the WHO Health Pavilion, please visit our page here: <https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2022/11/06/default-calendar/cop27-health-pavilion>

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