



WHO Media Advisory

Wednesday's health and climate event highlights at COP27!

Building Resilient and Sustainable Low Carbon Health Systems in Africa and Middle East

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

The event will highlight call for action to support health benefits for the African and Eastern Mediterranean population, as well as the environmental and climate co-benefits, that can be obtained by implementing ongoing multi-sectoral policies and initiatives in the African and Eastern Mediterranean Regions. The side event will showcase progress on promoting the COP26 Health Initiative on Building Climate Resilient and Sustainable Low Carbon Health Systems in the AFRO and EMRO Regions and will deep dive on opportunities and challenges for their implementation taking stock of existing networks and partnerships, such as the Clim-health, and considering the important momentum created in the frames of the COP27.

Speaker will include Dr Brama Kone', WHO Regional Office for Africa, Carolyn Tateishi, Director, Climate Change and Innovation Bureau, Health Canada and Prof Youba Sokona, Coordinating Co-Chair, Integrated Assessment of Air Pollution and Climate Change for Sustainable Development in Africa and Vice Chair, IPCC.

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

High level meeting: Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (ATACH)

9 November 2022, 11:30-13:00 EET

This high-level event will showcase the experience of countries that have already committed to building climate-resilient and low-carbon health systems and invite other Member States, as well as non-state actors, to join ATACH. The Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (ATACH) works to realize the ambition set at COP26 in Glasgow last year to build climate-resilient and sustainable health systems and promote the integration of climate change and health nexus into respective national, regional and global plans.

ATACH is co-convened by the UK and Egypt. As part of this initiative, over 60 countries have already committed to building climate-resilient and low-carbon health systems, and among these, 20 countries have also set a target date to reach net-zero carbon emissions from their health systems before 2050.

Location: Memphis Room, Sharm El-Sheikh International Convention Center (SHICC)

Ride for their Lives 2022: An inspiring story of international collaborative action

9 November 2022, 13:00-14:00

This event will mark the climax of Ride for their Lives 2022 (RFTL2022). This year, hundreds of healthcare providers from around the world - including the United Kingdom, the United States, Colombia, Chile, France, Switzerland, and Italy - have been organizing cycle rides to inspire action on air pollution and support children's health. In this event, we will hear from the doctors and riders who participated in the campaign about their experiences of the ride and how it has inspired them and their institutions to take further action.

The campaigners are raising support for the Healthy Climate Prescription Letter, signed by over 300 medical organizations across the globe, the Fossil Fuel NonProliferation Treaty and an editorial entitled "Urgent action needed for Africa and the world", co-authored by editors from 16 African medical journals.

Speakers will include Dr Diarmid Campbell-Lendrum, Head of Climate Change and Health Unit, WHO, Dr Omnia El Omrani, COP27 President Envoy of Youth and Dr Mark Hayden, consultant intensivist, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, London, UK and lead ride organizer RFTL 2022.

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

Climate Action and Psychology: Using Psychological Science and Practice to Promote Mental Health

9 November 2022, 14:00-15:15

Climate change can negatively impact mental health and well-being. For example, psychological science documents a relationship between increasing heat and aggression, growing anxiety resulting from various aspects of climate change, such as the enormity of the problem combined with imminent need for action, and comorbid influences between environmental degradation and physical and mental health.

This session provides information about programmes, resources, and projects that promote mental health in the context of a changing climate within an equity lens. Attendees will obtain an overview of some of the primary ways that the United Nations, national governments, and civil society are using science-based approaches to promote resilience and well-being around the world in the context of a warming climate.

Speaker will include Samuel Hill, Department of Health and Social Care, United Kingdom (virtual), Jessica Newberry Le Vay, MSc Imperial College London and Amanda Clinton, PhD, American Psychological Association.

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

Health and Energy Platform of Action (HEPA): Tackling the health-energy-climate nexus through increased capacity, finance and actions on the ground to accelerate clean cooking

9 November 2022, 15:30-16:45 EET

This side event will showcase concrete actions, projects and programmes, partners of the Health and Energy Platform of Action (HEPA) are implementing on the ground to improve clean household energy within the most vulnerable communities. A variety of HEPA partners working on health and energy issues have committed to accelerate action towards clean cooking and will share practical experience in various countries and regions.

The session will also showcase successful interventions and technical tools to accelerate access to clean cooking in different countries and regions. After a short introduction of the Clean Household Energy Solutions Toolkit (CHEST), representatives and partners will walk through several examples of how CHEST has been applied practically on the ground. This includes the application of the Benefits of Action to Reduce Household Air Pollution (BAR-HAP) tool or the implementation of the Household Energy Assessment Rapid Tool (HEART).

Speakers will include Dr Maria Neira, Director Environment, Climate Change & Health, WHO, Kandeh Yumkella, Member of Parliament, CEO of TENN Network, Sierra Leone and Mr Ed Brown, Research Director, Modern Energy Cooking Services (MECS).

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

Global Youth Forum on Health and Climate Change WHO and Government of Egypt 8-9 November 2022

WHO, the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) and the Global Climate and Health Alliance (GCHA) are organising the first ever Global Youth Forum on Health and Climate Change ahead of COP27 to support meaningful youth engagement in climate and health action.

The forum will take place over three days:

The Global Youth Forum will be organized under the Patronage of His Excellency Minister of Health and Population of Egypt Dr. Khaled Abdel Ghaffar and His Excellency Minister of Youth and Sport of Egypt Dr. Ashraf Sobhy.

More information available [here](#)

Location: Virtual

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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