

Thursday, 30 November 2023

WHO at COP28: Daily highlights for media, Friday 1 December

Featured event

WHO Health Pavilion at COP28 artwork: photo and media opportunity with the artists, WHO and Wellcome Trust, 09.30.10.30 GST

Journalists and photographers with UNFCCC media accreditation are invited to visit the Pavilion, photograph or film it, and meet and speak with the artists who designed it, including Victoria Pratt and Ben Eaton, Invisible Flock's Creative Director and Technical Director. This event will profile artworks by international artists, telling their stories of how land, health, and the climate are deeply connected. It will also include the 6.5m centrepiece sculpture which alludes to human lungs whilst taking the shape of trees colliding, an installation that draws attention to the connection between human health and the health of our planet. Dr Maria Neira, WHO Director for Environment, Climate Change and Health; Alan Dangour, Director of Climate and Health, Wellcome Trust; and Dr Diarmid Campbell-Lendrum, Head of the climate change and health unit at WHO Headquarters will also be present.

COP28 Health Pavilion programme

The events are taking place in the Opportunity Petal, Thematic Arena 2 (TA2 225). All the sessions are open to the press and will be livestreamed here. Further information about the events, speakers and other resources can be found here.

The climate crisis is a health crisis: uniting to galvanize action towards solutions for climate adaptation, 11.15-12.30 GST

Concrete strategies and solutions to tackle issues at the nexus of climate and health will be at the focus of the first session at the COP28 Health Pavilion. Featuring Dr Vanessa Kerry, WHO DG Special Envoy on Health and Seed Global Health CEO, and a video message by Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General.

Also speaking: Vanina Laurent-Ledru, DG, Foundation S; Dr Maria Neira, Director of the Department of Public Health and Environment at WHO; H.E. Awa Coll Seck, Minister of State Senegal; Tamer Rabie,

Health Lead, World Bank; Peter Sands, CEO, The Global Fund; Anda Nyondo, Country Director Malawi Seed Global health; Runa Khan, CEO Friendship NGO in Bangladesh.

When Climate is a Health Story: From Local to Global, How Climate Journalism Can Elevate the Health Story at the Heart of the Climate Crisis, 13.30-14.45 GST

Climate journalism can elevate the health story at the heart of the climate crisis and can help the public and policymakers gain a better understanding of the health arguments for climate action. The panellists will share insights from reported stories and discuss the ways to communicate the inextricable linkages between the health of people, animals, and ecosystems.

Tackling the maternal and reproductive health harms of fossil fuels and petrochemicals, 15.15-16.30 GST

Worldwide, the increased risk of maternal and reproductive health harm from exposure to fossil fuel and petrochemical operations has been well-documented. A fair and fast phase out of fossil fuels and related petrochemicals and plastics (derived from fossil fuels) to a less extractive and exploitative economic model will reduce exposure and support maternal health and reproductive justice.

Anticipatory action for climate-induced emergencies - Bridging gaps in humanitarian response, 17.00-18.15 GST

Humanitarian organizations witness and respond to the consequences of climate change across the world. The session will explore the potential of anticipatory action, including for infectious diseases, such as for cholera and malaria outbreaks; what is needed to bring this approach to scale; and where and how humanitarian, climate and health actors can come together to adapt health, humanitarian and disaster response systems to the changing reality of climate change.

Additional information: <u>Health at COP28</u>; <u>COP28 Hub</u>: <u>Health in climate change talks</u>; <u>Climate Change and Health</u>; <u>Environment</u>, <u>Climate Change and Health</u>; <u>Fact Sheet: Climate Change</u>

Media Contact

Amna Smailbegovic, WHO Media Officer, smailbegovica@who.int
WHO media inquiries: mediainquiries@who.int