



Tuesday, 05 December 2023

WHO at COP28: Daily highlights for media, Wednesday 06 December

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](#). The brochure, with full information about the events, speakers and other resources can be found [here](#).

6 December is ***Air Pollution Day*** at the Health Pavilion. On the programme:

***Unlocking Climate and Health Wins with Clean Cooking*, 09.30-10.45 GST**

The goal of this event is to put clean cooking in the context of national climate impacts, highlighting its potential for mitigating climate change and improving health. The event will start with introductory remarks for context setting, followed by two fireside chat sessions that will include overviews of climate and health benefits of household energy, clean cooking project implementation insights, and facilitated questions for fireside chat participants.

***Driving the end of the fossil fuel era: How cities are leading a just transition to build a healthier world*, 11.15–12.30 GST**

Featuring mayors, climate and health experts, and youth advocates from across the world, this event will call out the injustices of fossil fuel expansion from a public health perspective and demonstrate that the decisions we make about how to fuel our energy consumption are inextricably linked to human health. Our panelists will illustrate the severe health burden of continued fossil fuel use for cities revealed by C40's research, and present a shared vision of the benefits of a decisive fossil fuel phase-out in line with 1.5°C.

Speakers will include Mayor LaToya Cantrell, Mayor of New Orleans; Mayor Ahmed Aboutaleb, Mayor of Rotterdam; Juliet Oluoch, Youth Advocate and member of C40 Youth Hub; and Shweta Narayan, International Climate and Health Campaigner, Health Care Without Harm.

***Safe and Healthy Streets are the Basis for Decarbonising Mobility*, 13.30-14.45 GST**

Decarbonising urban mobility depends on policies to make streets safer and accessibility more equitable. This side event will explore the fundamental importance of road safety interventions for achieving climate goals, indicators to quantify the importance of safe streets to decarbonizing mobility, and experience in implementing road safety policies that avoid transport emissions and shift mobility.

Breathing for a Better Tomorrow: Engaging Health Professionals and Civil Society for Clean Air and Healthy Climate, 15.15-16.30 GST

Air pollution, primarily driven by fossil fuel combustion, stands as a global human rights crisis, contributing to acute and chronic health issues. Furthermore, climate change exacerbates health challenges, with extreme heat posing a significant risk. Astonishingly, 99% of the world's population resides in areas with air quality breaching WHO guidelines, especially impacting low- and middle-income countries.

The session will emphasize the profound impact on noncommunicable diseases, proposing a paradigm shift toward a sustainable, fossil fuel-free future. The event aims to shed light on the twin threats of air pollution and climate change, showcasing their interconnectedness and advocating for urgent action. The economic costs of air pollution-related health impacts, exceeding \$8.1 trillion in 2019, underscore the need for immediate and comprehensive human rights consistent measures.

Synergies and trade-offs in climate neutral and healthy cities – How to combine adaptation and mitigation measures, 17.00-18.15pm

Cities are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts like extreme events, putting adaptation efforts high on their agenda. At the same time, due to their energy and resource demands, they are central for mitigation efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This dichotomy in promoting sustainable urban living creates a complex web of interactions with profound implications for public health, which are often overlooked in scenarios for carbon dioxide (CO₂)-neutral cities. The session will explore how successful mitigation and adaptation actions improve the health of people living in cities.

Additional information: [Health at COP28](#); [COP28 Hub](#); [Health in climate change talks](#); [Climate Change and Health](#); [Environment, Climate Change and Health](#); [Fact Sheet: Climate Change](#)

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