



Saturday, 09 December 2023

WHO at COP28: Daily highlights for media, Sunday 10 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](#).

Healthy and sustainable diets for nurturing people and planet, 09.30-10.45 GST

Current food systems are among the main drivers of climate change, biodiversity loss, and the depletion of natural resources. A shift to diets that incorporate healthier foods with lower environmental footprints, could help improve human and planetary health. Dietary needs and preferences and environmental impacts are highly diverse and addressing them requires context-specific, equity-sensitive solutions.

At this session, a Diet Impact Assessment (DIA) modelling tool will be showcased. This was developed by WHO EURO, in collaboration with experts, that will enable Member States to analyze user-specific scenarios of dietary change to estimate the health, environmental and cost burden of each scenario in terms of diet costs, avoidable deaths, changes in resource use and compatibility with global environmental targets, including those related to food-related greenhouse gas emissions, land use, water use and fertilizer application.

This side event will also include a panel discussion to highlight practical examples of the integration of climate and nutrition action.

SOS: Protecting Health & Health Systems Through Summers of Smoke and Fire, 11.15-12:30 GST

Summer 2023 saw devastating wildfires in the US and Canada, with more than 100 people killed on the island of Maui, 25 000 people and a 100-bed hospital evacuated out of Yellowknife, and a state of emergency declared in the Canadian province of British Columbia. What early learnings can we take from these events to inform emergency preparedness of health systems and to support the physical and mental health of patient populations?

Wildfires impact health locally via direct trauma, danger to staff, and impacts on health systems, and regionally via smoke and health system impacts of evacuated patients. In a world where curriculum surveys show that most health practitioners are still not briefed about climate change and inter-agency silos persist, how can we quickly upskill the health workforce and create integrated management plans that protect patients and health systems?

Launch event of the Quadripartite Guide to implementing the One Health Joint Plan of Action, 13.30-14.45 GST

The One Health Joint Plan of Action (OH JPA) outlines the commitment of the Quadripartite organizations (FAO, UNEP, WHO and WOA) to collectively advocate for, and support the implementation of One Health at all levels and across sectors to tackle interconnected health risks and protect the health of all species. At the session, the Quadripartite organizations will present and officially launch the OH JPA Implementation Guide, to provide countries with guidance on how to adopt and adapt the OH JPA through the three pathways of its theory of change.

Tackling Micronutrient Malnutrition in a Warming World, 15.15-16.30 GST

This event will explore some key interventions for improving (micro)nutrition that are neutral or (ideally) positive for the environment. The event will elevate a common narrative on nutrition and climate change, highlighting the bidirectional relationship between food systems and the environment, and pointing to specific policy and programmatic actions that contribute to both human and planetary health.

Thirsty for change - The water crisis at the nexus of climate and health, 17.00-18.15 GST

Climate change is impacting people's health, now. The evidence is irrefutable. Yet, even for the growing number of people feeling its impacts first-hand, the link between climate and health is still not readily understood. And where it is known, it's not yet translating to action.

This event will explore the water crisis - where the 'climate and health' nexus is becoming a daily reality for a growing number of people around the world. Through new research, a BBC short film and a panel, we hear from individuals confronted by the water, climate and health crisis, as well as those with the power and solutions to drive change.

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](#)

Media Contact

Amna Smailbegovic, WHO Media Officer, smailbegovica@who.int

WHO media inquiries: mediainquiries@who.int
