



WHO Media Advisory

Tuesday's health and climate event highlights at COP27!

High Level Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI) Health Systems Taskforce event **8 November 2022, 08:00-09:30 EET**

This high-level event dedicated to the Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI) Health Systems Taskforce is to accelerate the delivery of net zero, sustainable healthcare to improve individual, societal and planetary health. Health Systems Task Force was launched at COP26 in Glasgow and is comprised of healthcare leaders from the private and public sectors.

Speakers will include the WHO Director-General (virtual), Egyptian Minister of Health, Dr Khaled Abdel Ghaffer, and Commonwealth Secretary-General, Baroness Scotland.

Location: Four Season's Hotel

WHO Health Pavilion Inauguration **The price of Climate Change is paid by our Lungs** **8 November 2022, 12:00-13:00 EET**

The Health Pavilion is a reminder of how our health is impacted by climate change and environmental factors and why we need to put it at the centre of these negotiations. Over 90 per cent of people breathe air that is polluted beyond WHO air quality limits and threatens their health, causing 7 million premature deaths every year. A heating world is seeing mosquitoes spread disease further and faster than ever before. Extreme weather events, land degradation and water scarcity are displacing people and affecting their health.

This high-level event will feature an artistic performance from Land Body Ecologies, an interdisciplinary network of human rights activists, artists, scientists and indigenous communities, and fireside chats with high-level speakers.

Speakers will include Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General (virtual), Alan Dangour, Director of Climate and Health, Wellcome Trust, Dr Maria Neira, Director of Environment, Climate Change and Health, WHO.

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

High Level Meeting: Energizing health: accelerating electricity access in health-care facilities

WHO, World Bank, SE4ALL, IRENA

8 November 2022 15:30-17:00 EET

Access to energy is critical when it comes to the functionality of health-care facilities and the quality, accessibility and reliability of health services delivered. Hundreds of millions of people worldwide are served by health-care facilities without electricity. Even in cases when electricity connection exists, power supply is not reliable due to poor grid infrastructures or non-functional diesel generators. While most large hospitals have access to electricity, access rates drop dramatically for rural clinics.

This high-level event will focus on the urgent need to accelerate electricity access in health-care facilities globally to protect public health and minimize the dramatic impacts of climate change. The event will provide the opportunity to highlight key challenges and to discuss concrete actions and cooperation opportunities, benefiting from the participation of high-level representatives of international organizations and governments.

Speakers will include Goddy Jedy-Agba, Minister of State, Federal Ministry of Power, Nigeria, Riccardo Puliti, Vice-President of Infrastructure, World Bank and Francesco La Camera, Director-General, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

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

Communicating efficiently on climate change and health

8 November 2022, 17:30-18:45 EET

WHO is currently collaborating with Health Canada and leading communication experts to develop guidance and tools for the global health community, in order to improve advocacy and its role in enabling policies that protect health from climate change.

This side event is an opportunity to promote an open dialogue among policy makers and communication experts, public health and climate communities to take stock on successes, failures and new opportunities to use the health topic in strategic climate talks as motivational factor to raise more ambitions and increase the overall understanding that: **INVESTING IN CLIMATE EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS means INVESTING in BETTER HEALTH FOR ALL.**

As an additional contribution to this alternative communication approach, one of the thematic film prizes of WHO's Health for All Film Festival in 2023 will be dedicated to Climate Change and Health and the call for submissions is open until 31 January 2023.

Speakers will include Isabella Chan, Assistant Deputy Health Minister for Health Canada, Dr Edward W. Maibach, Director of George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication and Dr Maria Neira, Director for Environment, Climate Change and Health, WHO.

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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