

Mitigating the impacts of climate change on health

EPW core priorities and flagships

Promoting health and well-being

WHO collaboration

Technical guidance
Country mission

As Turkmenistan experiences the effects of a changing climate, it is focusing on adaptation and mitigation strategies to fulfil the international commitments under the Paris Agreement. Rising temperatures and extreme weather events are escalating the risk of vector-borne, foodborne and waterborne diseases, increasing heat-related mortality, and straining the health-care system. Proactively addressing these emerging threats is essential for the nation's continued development and for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Turkmenistan partnered with the Regional Office to create a national action plan for adapting health to climate change. This joint work is embedded in the biennial collaborative agreement between the Regional Office and the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry. The Regional Office provided technical expertise, including through advisory missions to familiarize policy-makers with international experience and best practices in climate change action plans.

The impact

In 2020 the national action plan was launched. It addresses critical areas such as strengthening the health system's capacity to respond to climate change impacts, and enhancing surveillance for infectious diseases transmitted through vectors, water, air and food. Building on this momentum, a heat-health strategy was approved in 2022, further reinforcing the country's comprehensive approach to mitigating climate-related health impacts.

Lessons learned

- Multisectoral cooperation is critical for the successful implementation of climate adaptation strategies.
- Leveraging WHO's expertise in climate and health enables the development of more scientifically informed adaptation approaches.
- Establishing clear indicators within the action plan allows for precise tracking of progress.

Donors and partners

Ministry of Health and Medical Industry



The Akhal region of Turkmenistan.
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“Adaptation measures to climate change are key to keeping our communities healthy and ensuring Turkmenistan thrives for generations to come.”

Dr Guzaliya Gazizova, Chief Specialist at the State Sanitary and Epidemiological Service, Ministry of Health and Medical Industry, Turkmenistan

What's next?

Turkmenistan plans to continue integrating climate-related health adaptation measures into broader socioeconomic strategies. Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are being developed and will be further implemented to ensure the ongoing effectiveness of the national action plan, with continued support from the Regional Office.