Health in UNFCCC COP28

30 November - 12 December 2023
Expo City Dubai, the UAE

Climate Change and Health Team,
World Health Organization
Health in UNFCCC COP28

Key objectives/opportunities for WHO at COP(s):
Increase health influence in the UNFCCC negotiations, through supporting the participation of national health representatives in national delegations and strengthening joint advocacy with NGOs, UN, academic, and private sector partners on key health and climate cross-cutting issues.

- Negotiations engagement
- High Level meetings
- ATACH events
- COP28 Health Pavilion
- COP28 Health Day and Health Ministerial
- Global advocacy campaign

Stakeholder engagement
- Member States
- NGOs/ CSOs/ Academia/ Youth
- Other UN Agencies and Sectors
- Private sector

Support to UAE COP28 initiatives + CCH team member(s) in UAE

The key objective for COP28 is to achieve high-level recognition of health as part of the climate agenda, as well as its inclusion in the COP outcome text and the Global Stocktake.
UNFCCC negotiations engagement

WHO prepares policy briefs, submissions and statements to address key health-relevant issues under the UNFCCC negotiations and provides support to negotiators on how to include health into different negotiating streams.

Key issues include:

- Loss and Damage
- Adaptation
- Mitigation
- Finance
- Agriculture
- Food Systems
- Gender
- Youth and intergenerational equity
- Metrics and indicators for implementation
Health in the Global Stocktake

Submission from the global health community: Views on the approach to the consideration of outputs component of the first Global Stocktake

Guiding principles:

• The GST must be science-based.
• The GST must raise collective ambition.
• The GST must protect the health and well-being of people.

Proposed GST outputs:

• A rapid, equitable phase out of fossil fuels is essential for 1.5°C and for a liveable future.
• Evaluate the extensive health and economic benefits of climate action.
• Strengthen adaptation action for long-term resilience and wellbeing.
COP28 Health Pavilion

For the third time, WHO will host the Health Pavilion. It will convene the health community at COP and feature over 40 side events organized in the span of two weeks, showcasing the health arguments for ambitious climate action across many different sectors and topics.

✅ Symbolic lung sculpture

✅ Event applications open until September 15
COP28 Health Day

For the first time, COP28 UAE Presidency will convene a dedicated Health Day at COP. Key topics will include:

- Health impacts of climate change
- Health benefits of climate mitigation
- Climate resilient low-carbon health systems
- Adaptation for health
- Action for health, relief, recovery & peace.

Climate-Health Ministerial

- December 3, Blue Zone
- Invitations sent to all Ministers of Health
- 50 Champion countries
The Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate Change and Health (ATACH) is a WHO-led mechanism to support delivery on the COP26 health commitments on climate resilient and low carbon sustainable health systems. It provides a platform for coordination; knowledge and best practice exchange; networks and access to support and link up to existing initiatives; tackling common challenges; and monitoring global progress.

- > 70 country commitments
- 5 working groups
- Co-convened by the UK and COP Presidencies
Training for health professionals

The online course "Climate Change Negotiations and Health" features key information on climate change and its impacts on human health, provides an overview of the climate change negotiations so far, and considers entry points to address health issues and priorities within climate change negotiations and policies.

Course outline:

Lesson 1: Introduction to Health and Climate Change
Lesson 2: History of the UN Climate Negotiations
Lesson 3: The Paris Agreement
Lesson 4: From Paris to Glasgow and Sharm El Sheikh
Lesson 5: Health in the UN Climate Change Negotiations
Lesson 6: Healthy and Green Recovery from COVID-19

✓ Developed jointly with UNITAR/UN CC:Learn
✓ Update ahead of COP28
Key health messages for COPs

1. Commit to a healthy, green & just recovery from COVID-19
2. Promote healthy climate commitments
3. Harness the health benefits of climate action
4. Build health resilience to climate risks
5. Create energy systems that protect and improve climate and health
6. Reimagine urban environments, transport and mobility
7. Restore nature as the foundation of our health
8. Promote healthy, sustainable and resilient food systems
9. Finance a healthier, fairer, and greener future to save lives
10. Mobilize the health community for urgent climate action
Thank you!