



**Conferência sobre o  
Impacto das Mudanças  
Climáticas na Saúde**

# **The future of Public Health in the context of a Changing Climate**

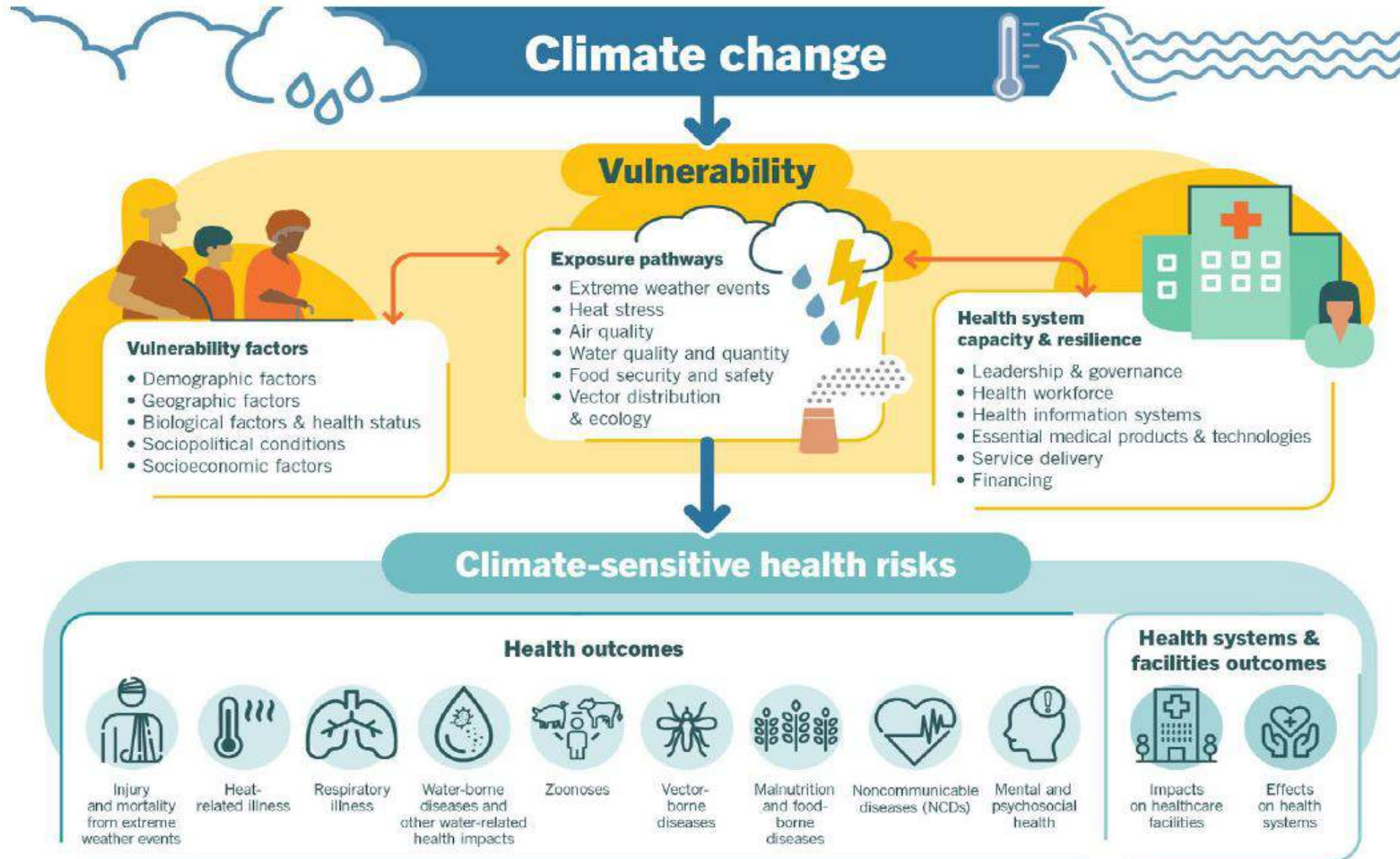
*Adelheid W. Onyango*

*WHO Regional Office for Africa*



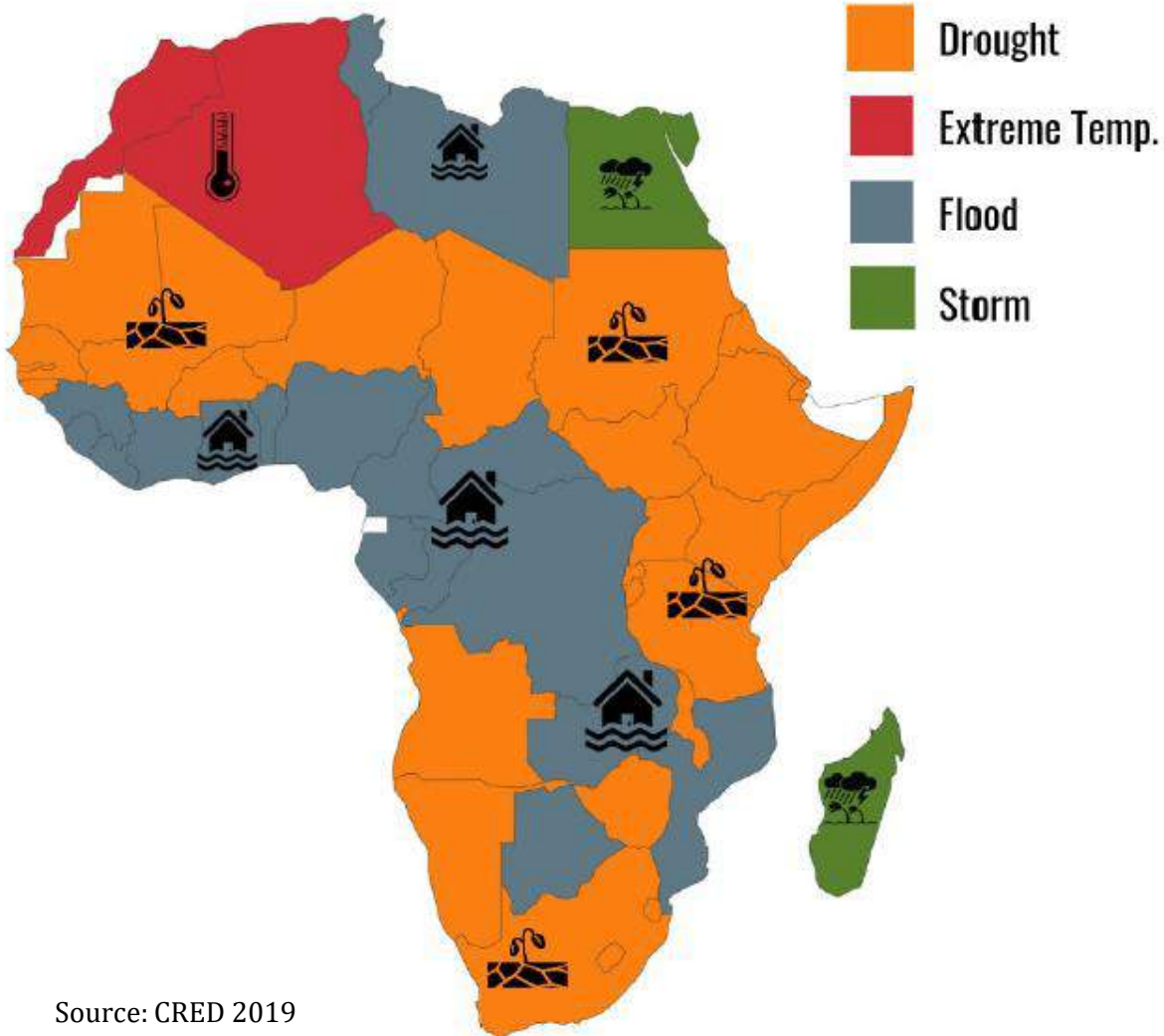
**Data: 02/11/2023**

# Impacts of climate change on health

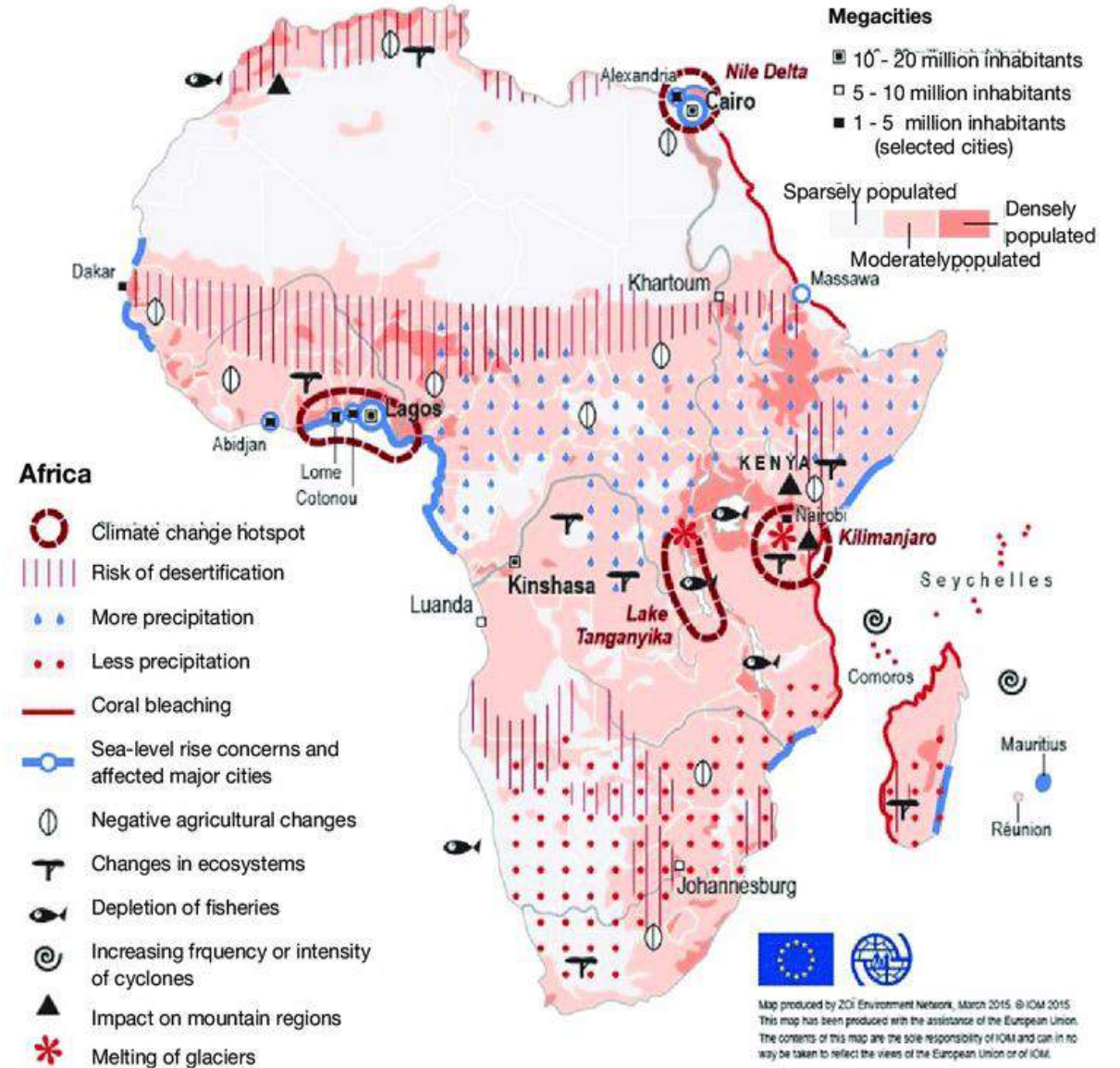




# Disaster type affecting highest number of people by country (2000-2019)



Source: CRED 2019

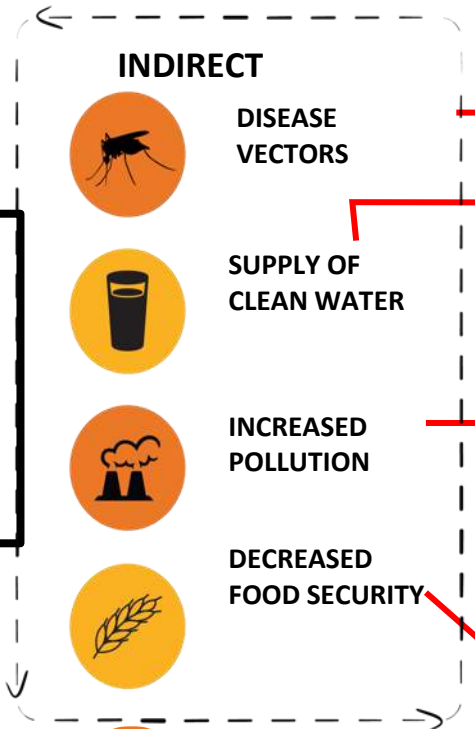




# Climate-health challenges in the African Region



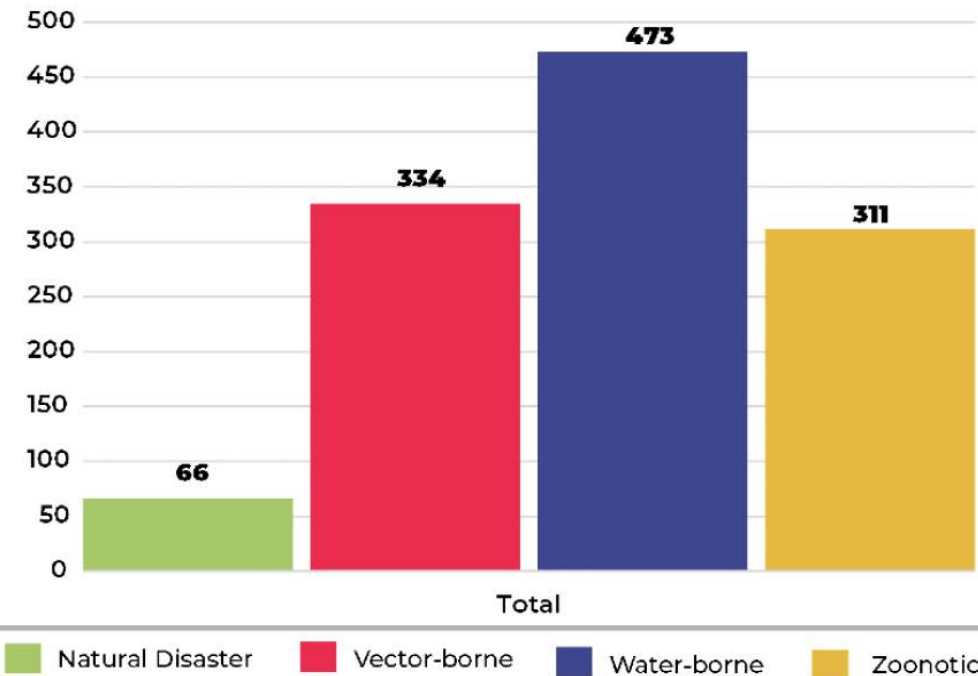
## Specific Vulnerability of women in Africa



# Current and projected impacts of climate change on health in Africa – I

- Of the **2,121 public health events** recorded in the region between 2001 and 2021, **56% were climate-related**
- Region is witnessing **increase in climate-linked emergencies**
- **25% more climate-related events** recorded from 2011 and 2020 compared to the previous decade

## Climate related public health events 2001 - 2021





# Current and projected impacts of climate change on health in Africa – II

Will cause over **250,000 deaths annually in Africa by 2030** (malnutrition, malaria, diarrheal disease, and heat stress)

Could lead to a **48% increase in the population at risk of malaria transmission** in sub-Saharan Africa by 2050

Potential **decrease of up to 50% in agricultural production** by 2030 in some countries

- **~5.3 million people** were displaced by climate-related disasters in Africa in 2020 alone
- By 2030, this could increase to **15 million people annually** (due to droughts, floods, and storms)
- Could cost African economies **1.5-3% of annual GDP by 2030** (impacts on agriculture, water resources, and infrastructure)



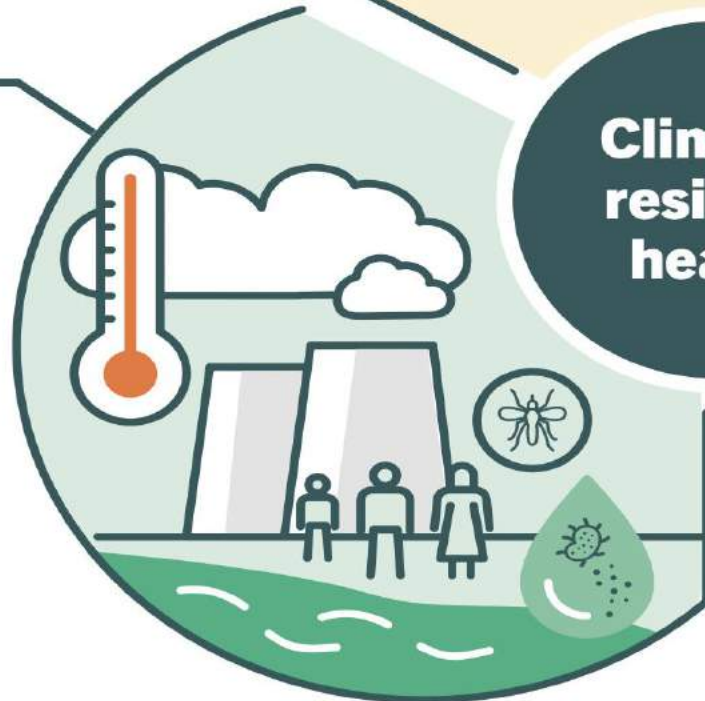
# WHO work on Climate change and health needs

## Key Focus Areas

To advance climate-resilient health, WHO works in three key focus areas:

**1**

Addressing the wide range of health impacts of climate change



**Climate-resilient health**

**2**

Strengthening the climate resilience and environmental sustainability of health systems and facilities



**3**

Promoting the health co-benefits of climate change mitigation in other sectors





# Building climate-resilient health

This document aims to help users navigate the climate change and health technical support package offered by the World Health Organization. It is structured around five key areas of support and explains what tools, resources, and assistance are available.

## 5. Monitoring climate change and health progress

Regular monitoring of national health sector response to climate change, highlights the progress made by governments towards strengthening the resilience of health systems while identifying priority areas for improvement.

[Learn more →](#)

## 1. Assessing health risks and co-benefits

Assessing health vulnerability to climate change at population and facility level and understanding the potential health co-benefits of climate action will provide the required evidence to protect and promote health in a changing climate.

[Learn more →](#)

## 2. Climate change and health planning

Through comprehensive and systematic climate change and health planning, countries can identify required interventions to address climate-sensitive health risks at population and health system and facility level.

[Learn more →](#)

## 4. Implementing climate change and health interventions

A wide range of interventions and tools are available to support countries in their efforts to strengthen the climate resilience and environmental sustainability of health systems and facilities.

[Learn more →](#)

## 3. Financing climate change and health

Climate change financing, such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF), can be accessed to strengthen the climate resilience and environmental sustainability of health systems and facilities and to promote the health co-benefits of mitigation across multiple sectors.

[Learn more →](#)





# Engaging communities to reduce the impacts of climate change on health

## Example from Sao Tome e Principe

- 1– Risk study and cartographic mapping of affected areas ;
- 2– Implementation cost/value estimate of the actions and resilience measures;
- 3– Planning/Design of new structures to be incorporated in those affected areas;
- 4– Mobilization and involvement of local institutions/organizations and benefited communities to implement the beforehand planned emergency actions and measures toward any new climate events to prevent and improve the resilience in the public health





# Key Frameworks/Strategies/Platforms For Climate Change and Health Work in Africa



# KEY FRAMEWORKS AND POLICY DOCUMENTS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH WORK IN WHO/AFRO

## Libreville Declaration on Health and Environment in Africa

Libreville, 29 August 2008



REPUBLIQUE GABONAISE



United Nations  
Environment Programme



World Health  
Organization

World Health Organization  
Regional Office for Africa



World Health  
Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Africa**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

Seventy-second session  
Lomé, Republic of Togo, 22–26 August 2022

Provisional agenda item 13

**UPDATED REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINANTS OF HUMAN HEALTH IN THE AFRICAN  
REGION 2022–2032**

AFR/RC72/10

5 July 2022

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH



World Health  
Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Africa**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

Sixty-first session  
Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire 29 August–2 September 2011

RESOLUTION

**FRAMEWORK FOR PUBLIC HEALTH ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN  
THE AFRICAN REGION (Document AFR/RC61/10)**

AFR/RC61/R2

1 September 2011

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

# COP26 HEALTH INITIATIVE IN GLASGOW

- The **COP26 Health Initiative**: building climate-resilient, sustainable, low-carbon health systems
- As of September 2023, 65 countries (**25 African**) have committed to the COP26 Health initiative.
- Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (**ATACH**) – technical mechanism to support countries that have signed the COP26 health initiative implement their commitments





# ATACH

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



# COP26 Health Initiatives and Alliance on Transformative Action on Climate and Health (ATACH)



## Commitment 1: Climate resilient health systems

- ❖ Commit to conduct climate change and health **vulnerability and adaptation assessments** (V&As) at population level and/or health care facility level by a stated target date.
- ❖ Commit to develop a **health national adaptation plan** informed by the health V&A, which forms part of the National Adaptation Plan to be published by a stated target date.
- ❖ Commit to use the V&A and HNAP to facilitate access to **climate change funding for health** (e.g., project proposals submitted to the Global Environmental Facility, Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund, or GCF Readiness programme).

## Commitment 2: Sustainable low carbon health systems

- ❖ High ambition/high emitters: Commit to set a target date by which to achieve **health system net zero emissions** (ideally by 2050).
- ❖ All countries: Commitment to deliver a **baseline assessment** of greenhouse gas emissions of the health system (including supply chains)
- ❖ All countries: Commit to develop an **action plan or roadmap** by a set date to develop a sustainable low carbon health system (including supply chains) which also considers human exposure to air pollution and the role the health sector can play in reducing exposure to air pollution through its activities and its actions.





# Frameworks for engagement in the Climate Change–Health Nexus

## COP Negotiations

- Climate and Health declaration – Draft declaration was circulated
- The COP28 opportunity – Health Day!
- Beyond COP28 – bridging the gap between the negotiations and action on the ground
- Common Position on Climate Change and Health
- Key health messages for COPs
- Health in the Global Stock take

## Global & Regional Mechanisms

- Clim-Health Africa
- One Health
- ATACH
- Africa Group of Negotiators (AGN)
- AGNES (AGN Experts Support)
- Regional Committee meetings
- (H)NAPS
- NDCs

# 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.

- ✓ December 3
- ✓ Blue Zone and Green Zone
- ✓ High-level side events
- ✓ In parallel with “Relief, recovery and peace Day”



## Climate-Health Ministerial

- ✓ December 3, Blue Zone
- ✓ Invitations sent to all Ministers of Health
- ✓ 50 Champion countries



# Common Position on Climate Change and Health

The health community and African regional stakeholders on climate change and health, met with the African Group of Negotiators in Lilongwe, Malawi, from 22-24 August 2023 to develop a Common Position on Climate Change and Health, as a call on parties to UNFCCC and other key stakeholders to demonstrate leadership on climate and health in certain processes:

- ✓ UNFCCC
- ✓ African Group of Negotiators
- ✓ African Union and Regional Economic Blocks
- ✓ National Governments
- ✓ Developed countries/ Global North



## THE COMMON AFRICA POSITION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH

'Exploiting the potential of One Health Approach for Low-Carbon, Climate Resilient Health Systems in Africa'

Lilongwe, Malawi: August 24, 2023

We, African regional stakeholders on climate change and health, having met in Lilongwe, Malawi, from 22-24 August 2023 for the African Regional Conference on Climate Change and Health;

Acknowledging the recognition by UNGA of the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment<sup>1</sup> as a universal human right, and by the Libreville Declaration on Health and Environment in Africa that good environmental management promotes good health;

Recalling the acknowledgment by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in the seventh chapter of its Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) that there is a high level of confidence in understanding how climate change impact ecosystems and the health of human beings;

Disturbed by the complex interplay between global temperature rise and the worsening health indicators, growing episodes of loss and damages and the implications of the health of ecosystem and health systems, emerging disease geographies and the growing burden of care for people suffering from disease triggered by climate episodes and disasters

Taking into account the urgent need for the global north to cut on their emission levels in order to slow and eventually forestall global temperature rise with implications on future climate catastrophes;

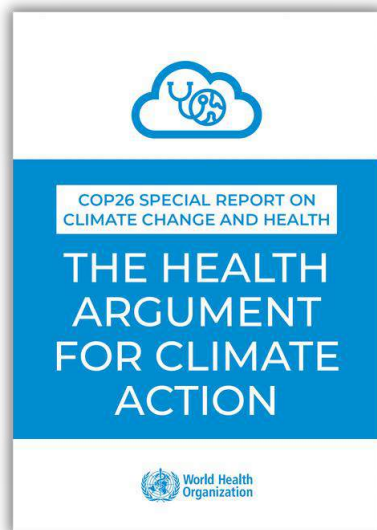
Fully aware that response measures in building resilience in the health sector will not yield the much-desired results unless complemented by strong mitigation actions by the global north;

Recognizing the One Health concept as a comprehensive and interdisciplinary strategy that acknowledges the interdependence of human health, animal health, and environmental health, and viewing it as the optimal approach to tackle intricate climate-driven health challenges at the junction of humans, animals, and ecosystems and pivotal in achieving planetary health;

Taking into consideration the COP26 Health Programme which was agreed upon by Parties meeting at the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, convened in Glasgow in 2021, under which nations pledged to establish health systems that are both resilient to climate impacts and characterized by low carbon emissions;

<sup>1</sup>The right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment (which includes the right to a safe climate) as a human right, recognized most recently in General Assembly resolution 76/300 of 29 July 2022.

# 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





# Training for health professionals

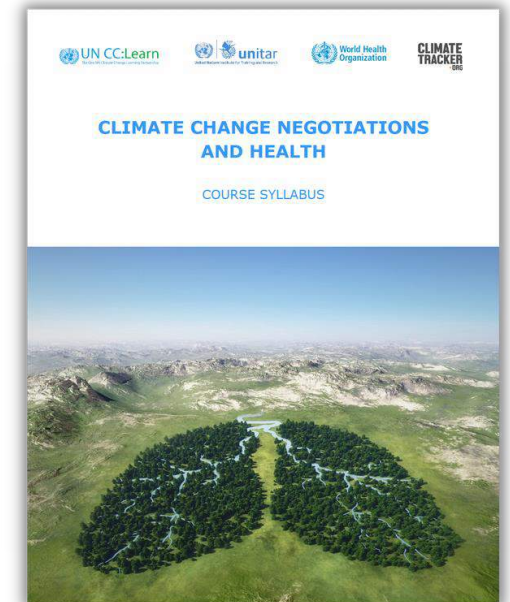
The online course "Climate Change Negotiations and Health" features key information on climate change and its impacts on human health, provides an overview of the climate change negotiations so far, and considers entry points to address health issues and priorities within climate change negotiations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

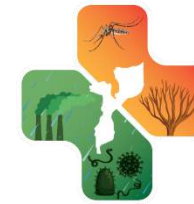


## Course outline:

- 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





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