First WHO Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health: Improving air quality, combatting climate change — saving lives

Pre-Conference Workshop

THE URBAN HEALTH INITIATIVE - UHI

Assessing the health and economic impacts of sectorial action against air pollution

29 October 2018, Geneva
WHO Headquarters, Salle C, 8h45–13h

Workshop Coordinator: Thiago Hérick de Sá

Concept Note

Background

The World Health Organization (WHO) Urban Health Initiative (UHI) aims for cities to have the data, tools, capacity and processes to include health in the development equation. The initiative aims are to empower the health sector to realise its potential to support scaling up policy actions to mitigate air pollutants at the urban level. The desired impacts are to reduce deaths and diseases associated with air pollutants, as well as to realise climate and other health benefits (e.g. fewer injuries, better diets, safe physical activity), associated with policies and measures to tackle air pollution. These analyses are conducted with WHO tools that are being adapted to the specific local contexts and inform model scenarios that are used to identify viable options of sector policy change. WHO and partner organisations will use this evidence to inform stakeholders and policymakers about health and other co-benefits of selected interventions that mitigate air pollution.
The model process of the initiative includes:

✓ mapping the current situation, including the policies, stakeholders and data, to assess the present state of air quality, climate and air pollutant emissions and their sources, identifying expected health and economic impacts and highlighting gaps in data collection and policy actions;
✓ adapting and applying health and economic tools in the local context, together with local experts;
✓ developing and testing scenarios based on policy options and alternate scenarios;
✓ building capacity to increase the health competencies to address air pollution-related issues among health professionals and across all the sectors;
✓ communicating and outreaching to sustain and mobilise support;
✓ tracking and monitoring results and refining policy.

WHO's First Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health, 30 October - 1 November 2018

The first WHO Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health: Improving air quality, combatting climate change – saving lives, will take place at WHO Headquarters in Geneva from 30 October to 1 November this year. The conference is organized by WHO in collaboration with UN Environment, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), the Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the World Bank.

The conference will host about 400 participants, including representatives of WHO Member States, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, academia and the media. It aims to share with participants the current evidence on air pollution exposure and its health impacts; tools for informed decisions on healthy policy choices; and knowledge on effective interventions that may improve air quality and promote health. Several outcomes are anticipated, including a “Call for Urgent Action” by health and other sectors to reduce the number of deaths due to air pollution. The conference will call for commitments to improve air quality from countries, cities, relevant intergovernmental organizations and non-state actors.

Workshop Program / Provisional Agenda

Monday, 29 October 2018
Chair: Patricia Ferrini (WHO); Rapporteur: Abraham Mwaura (WHO)

8:45 – 9:00  Reception
9:00 – 9:20  Overview of the Urban Health Initiative – Thiago Hérick de Sá (WHO)
9:20 – 9:50  Policy Mapping and Scenarios Development – Bhushan Thuladar (UN-Habitat)
9:50 – 10:10 The GreenS+ tool for urban green spaces – Pierpaolo Mudu (WHO Europe)
10:10 – 10:50  Introduction to the iSThAT – Integrated Sustainable Transport Health Assessment Tool– Joseph Spadaro (Basque Centre for Climate Change)
10:50 – 11:10  Break
11:10 – 11:40  Interacting with iSThAT – Joseph Spadaro (Basque Centre for Climate Change)
11:40 – 12:10  Economic Assessment of Health Impacts of Air Pollution – Andreia Santos (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine)
12:10 – 12:40  Communicating and outreaching to sustain and mobilize support at the local level – Elaine Fletcher (WHO)
12:40 – 13:00  Feedback and Remarks – Thiago Hérick de Sá (WHO)

Expected Number of participants

40-50

List of invitations with email addresses (if the workshop is open, please specify it below here)

The workshop is open and a registration form is provided on the website:


Registration: [https://extranet.who.int/datacol/survey.asp?survey_id=3914](https://extranet.who.int/datacol/survey.asp?survey_id=3914)

Deadline for registration is 21 October 2018.