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

Pre-Conference Workshop

Clean Household Energy Solutions Toolkit: WHO’s Tools & Resources to Support the Implementation of WHO guidelines for indoor air quality: household fuel combustion

Monday 29 October 2018, 09:00–12:00
World Health Organization, Geneva – Salle A

Background

Around 3 billion people lack access to clean household fuels and technologies, resulting in around 4 million deaths each year from exposure to household air pollution. In response to this public health crisis, in 2014, WHO published the first-ever normative guidance on what energies used in and around the home which can be considered ‘clean’ for health in the WHO Guidelines for indoor air quality: household fuel combustion (see WHO [ WHO Guidelines for indoor air quality: household fuel combustion]). These Guidelines have been instrumental in helping governments and other key stakeholders working in health, energy, environment, etc. to understand health risks from household energy use and what are the currently available interventions for public health protection.

However further work is needed to really support governments and other stakeholders to identify, implement and monitor a “healthy” clean household energy transition. Accordingly, WHO has been developing a Clean Household Energy Solutions Toolkit (CHEST) to provide countries and implementing partners with the tools and resources needed to implement the WHO Guidelines and accelerate the transition to clean and sustainable household energy solutions. This half-day workshop will provide participants with an overview of the Guidelines findings and the WHO toolkit to support their implementation. It will also give participants an opportunity to hear others’ experiences with CHEST tools, a ‘hands-on’ experience using some of the available CHEST tools, as well as an overview of current research efforts on the clean household energy transition, whose findings can be translated and used to inform policy decisions, thereby contributing to Sustainable Development Goal 7 (ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all).

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) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

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.

Session objectives:

To provide participants with:

- an overview of the information and WHO resources available to the health, energy and other sectors to support the development and implementation of clean household energy policies and programmes
- an opportunity to exchange and learn from the experiences of other stakeholders working in-country to pilot or implement WHO’s CHEST tools and resources
- an opportunity to ‘test’ or have a hands-on experience using some of the available CHEST tools
- an update of some of the large ongoing research efforts

Provisional agenda:

Moderator: Helen Petach, Senior Science Adviser, US Agency for International Development (USAID)

a. Heather Adair-Rohani, Team leader for Household Energy and Health, WHO: Defining ‘clean’ – Introduction of WHO guidelines (15 min + 10 min Q&A)

b. Jessica Lewis, Technical officer for Household Energy and Health, WHO: Tracking progress to ‘clean’ household energy: Using the database and harmonized survey tools to estimate clean and polluting fuel and technology use in country (20 min + 10 min Q&A)

c. Karin Troncoso, PAHO, Waltaji Terfa Kutane, WHO Ethiopia, Manjeet Saluja, WHO India and Hafeez Rehman, TERI - Using the data – Results of the Household Energy Assessment Rapid Tool (HEART) in Ghana, Ethiopia, India and Honduras (e.g. http://www.who.int/airpollution/publications/transition-to-clean-household-energy-Ghana/en/) (5 min intro (= 4 slides each) + 20 min discussion + 10 min Q&A)


e. Tom Clasen, Emory University: Study Design and Formative Research Exposure Results from the Household Air Pollution Intervention Network (HAPIN) Multi-Country LPG Trial (10 min, 5 min Q&A)

f. Snapshot of Emerging evidence – Panel discussion of ongoing research initiatives to support policy: Josh Rosenthal, Fogarty Center’s Implementation Science Network (case studies – 10 min), Kirk Smith, University of California (Pink key trial – 10 min), Elisa PUZZOLO, University of Liverpool/Global LPG Partnership (University of Liverpool's NIHR CLEAN-Air(Africa) Global Health Research Group – 10 min), Shu Tao, Professor, Peking University and Member of Chinese Academy of Sciences (Heat stove emissions and interventions in China – 10 min)