Regional activities and challenges - Overview by WHO Regional Offices

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The WHO European Region

53 Member States, 900 000 000 population

WHO European Centre for Environment and Health

Around 560 000 premature death due to air pollution, mainly due to ambient air pollution

Uneven distribution of the burden: almost 350 000 death in LMIC and 210 000 in HIC
Air quality and health in WHO EURO

Activities

- Task Force on Health – a regional intersectoral platform on the health aspects of transboundary air pollution
- Tools and methods to support Member States in assessing the impacts of air pollution on health
- Reviewing the scientific evidence and providing guidance and policy advice
- Updating WHO Global Air Quality Guidelines

Challenges

- Major differences in data availability within the Region
- Gaps in air quality monitoring in parts of the European Region
- Accessibility and quality of air pollution and health data
- Capacities in the health and other sectors to assess the health aspects of air pollution to guide public policy action
The WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region

22 Countries (of which 12 are in emergencies)
583 000 000 people

WHO Centre for Environmental Health Action (CEHA)

About 493 000 premature deaths due to indoor and outdoor air pollution
96% of the deaths occur in Least Developed and Developing Countries
## WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Main Activities</th>
<th>Main Challenges</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Regional Plan of Action on Air Quality and Health (2017-22)</td>
<td>• More than 50% of the countries of the Region are suffering from consequences of Emergencies</td>
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<td>• Early warning and communication systems for conveying health messages during air pollution episodes (including dust)</td>
<td>• Poor air quality and health data</td>
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<td>• Integrating air quality management actions within the programs of WHO Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases, Health Protection and Health Systems Departments</td>
<td>• Lack of air pollution inventories and source apportionment studies (dust is an issue)</td>
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Over 981000 deaths from Air pollution:

- 581300 due to indoor air pollution
- ~50% of deaths attributable to the environment

Highest burden on age standardized per capita basis

Cost about 3.8% of GDP
Air Quality and Health AFRO

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<td>Regional Strategy for the Management of Environmental Determinants of Health adopted (2017-2022):</td>
<td>• Weak and patchy implementation of WHO Air Quality guidelines</td>
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<td>• Manage air pollution and promote clean energy</td>
<td>• Monitoring of air quality in cities limited</td>
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<td>• Milestone- by 2022 at least 20 countries have data on ambient air quality</td>
<td>• Lack of awareness and limited investment in clean cooking fuels</td>
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<td>Technical support to countries to address ambient air pollution events:</td>
<td>• Inadequate capacity, human and financial, technical</td>
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<td>• AFRO led a joint mission with UNEP in March to investigate air pollution event in Port Harcourt City, Nigeria</td>
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<td>• Advocacy through Breathelife Campaign</td>
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WHO South-East Asian Region

- 1/4 of the world's population (1.9 Billion)
- 4/11 areLeast Developed Countries
- Rapid economic & social development
- Long-standing cultural & traditional practices
- Urbanization (set to double by 2050)
- Vulnerable to extreme weather events & climate change
- 2.4 M premature deaths combined effects of HAP and AAP
- HAP – 40% of all global AP deaths (1.5M)
- AAP – 30% of all global AP deaths (1.3M)
- 15/20 most polluted cities (14 IND, 1 BHU)

Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, DPR Korea, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste
Air Quality and Health SEARO

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<th>Successes &amp; Challenges</th>
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<td>HAP target in multisectoral action plans for NCDs focusing on 50% relative reduction in use of biomass by 2025</td>
<td>9/11 countries have included +1 addressed in EH plan. Progress uneven &amp; slower than needed – scale remarkable (&gt; 70% use in 6/11 countries &gt; 80% in 3) Innovative solutions - India + Indonesia Use of new WHO tools important</td>
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<td>Regional consultation on Air Pollution &amp; Health, 18-20 June 2018)</td>
<td>Focus on improving deeper understanding &amp; use of health evidence and SDG reporting Greater use of national data sought Health sector awareness of the need for greater involvement</td>
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<td>UHI (Kathmandu) CHEST - India Breathelife campaign – Greater Male</td>
<td>Scale up of CHEST underway in MYR, TLS and BAN</td>
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<td>Technical support to countries on request</td>
<td>WHO Mission to India + National consultations, MYR – Landfill fire</td>
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Burden of AP in the Western Pacific

• 37 countries and areas
  • Rapidly industrializing and urbanizing countries
• 1.9 billion (25% of world population)
• 2.2 million deaths due to air pollution (32% of global deaths)
  • AAP - 1.3 million
  • HAP - 1.2 million
WHO/WPRO action and regional challenge

• The Asia-Pacific Forum on Health and Environment
  o Manila Declaration, 2016
  o Thematic Working Group for Air Quality (TWG-AQ)

• Member States Consultation on Air Pollution and Health, Manila, October 2017
  o Prepare a regional report on air quality and health

• Regional challenge: Transboundary air pollution
  o Sand dusts in Northeast Asia
  o Agricultural haze in Southeast Asia
PAHO air quality program

Reduce the adverse health effects of air pollution in the Americas

Mainstreaming air quality in health programs and health in air quality management programs

- Expanding the knowledge base
- Monitoring and reporting
- Leadership and coordination
- Institutional capacity strengthening

Legislation
AQ stds. & regulations

Planning
Early warning systems

Risk analysis
Monitoring & BoD

Household energy
HEART

Urban development
HIA

Risk communication
BreatheLife