Addressing ambient and household air pollution will ensure progress towards multiple SDGs and targets. Given the magnitude of the problem, it is unlikely that SDG 3, SDG 7, SDG 11, and SDG 13 targets can be met without addressing the root causes of air pollution. Given the significant mortality and disease burden from air pollution, the health sector has a major role to play in advocating for actions and facilitating multisectoral cooperation to reduce the burden.

Both government- and individual-level interventions will be necessary. Individuals will need to support government interventions by using cleaner sources of energy and transport options. The potential for health and economic gains for nations is substantial if air pollution levels can be reduced.

Air pollution and climate change are closely linked. Climate emissions and air pollutants can derive from the same sources. For example, burning fossil fuels releases both greenhouse gases and air pollutants. Thus, by reducing air pollution, we also protect the climate.

**Sectoral collaboration necessary to address ambient air pollution**

- Industry
- Energy
- Transport
- Agriculture
- Land Use Planning
- Housing
- Health

**Sectoral collaboration necessary to address household air pollution**

- Industry
- Energy
- Housing
- Health
Key country-level actions

1. Regulate and enforce emission targets
2. Prioritize clean and renewable energy solutions, fuels and technologies that offer substantial health benefits
3. Improve urban planning and encourage healthy and efficient transport/mobility options
4. Provide access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking, heating and lighting
5. Develop health-based performance and safety standards for household energy, fuels and technologies
6. Integrate health impact assessment into decision-making with other health-determining sectors

Key WHO initiatives

1. Raise awareness about the risk of ambient and household air pollution on health
2. Provide technical support to countries to implement air quality guidelines
3. Increase capacity of health sector to advise the public and advocate for clean air solutions
4. Increase capacity for surveillance of air pollution related health impacts
5. Provide public health advice in emergency situations
6. Compile existing data and report on air-relevant SDG indicators – 3.9.1, 11.6.2, 7.1.2