



Health Emergencies Nexus – United against the unknown future crisis (Draft)

Introduction:

Since preparedness for health emergencies is an imperative issue and involves various functions such as international organizations, regional political bodies, governments, health professions and individuals. Therefore, it is imperative to focus on what each actor can do from different role plays and establish the theme as Health Emergencies Nexus – United against the unknown future crisis. And it approaches this topic from 4 different angles, the global level, regional level, national level and academic and research level.

Globally, the World Health Organization (WHO) plays a leading role in health and has created the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) to respond to health emergency events. Therefore, it is imperative to look forward to INB's future work to improve health emergency preparedness.

At the regional level, in the initial stage of the COVID pandemic, Presidents from SICA have declared to unite and fight against COVID,

where communication and coordination played critical roles in this fight against the COVID pandemic. Therefore, it is very illustrative to learn from the Executive Secretariat of the Council of Ministers of Health of Central America and the Dominican Republic (SE-COMISCA) the role that this institution had in relation to communication and coordination between the member states of SICA, and what could be improved for health emergency preparedness and the fight against emerging infectious diseases.

At the national level, policymakers from SICA Member States will share lessons from the past pandemic and what new measures are on the way for health emergency preparedness.

Finally, for the Academic and Research level, considering that knowledge is power. High-quality research evidence could point us in the right direction for health emergency preparedness.

Objective:

Facilitate a space for analysis, reflection and exchange of experiences on the actions that must be developed at the international, regional and national level in preparation for emergencies and health crises that may occur in the coming years.

Program:

Date: May 29th, 2024

Time: 18:00 – 19:20 (Geneve time)

Venue: Paris meeting room, InterContinental Genève

7-9 Chemin Du Petit-Saconnex, 1209 Geneva, Switzerland

Time	Topic	Moderator / Speaker
18:00 – 18:04	Welcome and introduction	Moderator to be recommended by MoH, Taiwan
18:04 – 18:10	Opening Remarks	1. Dr. Alejandra Acuña , Executive Secretary, SICA/SE-COMISCA 2. Amb. Dr. Charles C. Li , Secretary General, TaiwanICDF
18:10 – 18:25	Health Emergencies Program – What are the future works for the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) to improve preparation for health emergencies?	Speaker from academia recommended by WHO/PAHO (TBD)
18:25 – 18:35	Moving from the Declaration for Central America united against	Speaker from SICA (TBC)

	<p>"COVID-19" to "emerging infectious disease (EID)" – Communications and coordination among SICA member states for health emergency preparedness.</p>	
18:35 – 18:50	Moving forward and preparing for the unseen battle - Lessons from the past and new measures on the way.	Ministers of MoH from Belize and Guatemala (TBC)
18:50 – 19:05	Keys to victory – Research evidence that leads the forecasting and prevention of EIDs.	<p>Dr. Hung-Yi Chiou</p> <p>Distinguished Investigator and Director, Institute of Population Health Sciences, National Health Research Institutes, R.O.C (Taiwan)</p>
19:05 – 19:20	Q & A	Moderator & Panels

Registration QR Code:



Climate Change and Health

Date: May 28th, 2024

Time: 18:00 – 19:20 Geneva Time

Venue: Paris meeting room, InterContinental Geneva

Agenda

18:00–18:05 Welcome and introduction

Moderator (TBC)
Climate Action Accelerator

18:05–18:10 Opening remarks

Minister
Ministry of Health and Welfare, Taiwan

18:10–18:20

Keynote:
Climate change and Health –
how is this major global
crisis of our time intertwined
with human health?

Ms. Michele Sumilas
Assistant to the Administrator
Bureau for Planning, Learning and Resource
Management (PLR),
USAID

18:20–18:30

Let health be the center of
climate action – framing
policies and strategies to
improve public health under
climate crisis:

High-ranking officer (TBC)
Ministry of Health, St. Lucia

18:30–18:40

Building the Climate-resilient
Health Systems with Partner
Countries-TaiwanICDF's
Experience Sharing

Ms. Cathy Wang
Director of Humanitarian Assistance Department
TaiwanICDF

18:40–18:50

Impact of climate change on
reducing dietary diversity and
increasing malnutrition among
under 5 children.

Mr. Kallol Mukherji
Digital Health Manager & Deputy of Health Program
Terre des hommes

18:50–19:00

Climate Change and Health

Mr. Roman Cordero Mojica
Coordinator of the SE-COMISCA Project Portfolio Unit
Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana (SICA)

19:00–19:15

Q&A

Panels

19:15–19:20

Closing remarks

Amb. Dr. Charles C. Li
Secretary General
TaiwanICDF

Climate Change and Health

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Background

For the first time in history, the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) organizers hosted the first-ever Health Day on 3 December 2023 to reinforce the climate-related health crisis affecting at least 3.5 billion people – nearly half of the global population.

Extreme weather events not only place direct threats to human health but also disrupt the food supply and fuel the spread of infectious diseases, putting enormous pressure on health systems and workforces around the world. Therefore, a new COP28 UAE Declaration on Climate and Health was signed by over 130 countries at the Conference. The Declaration advocates for more engagements in political and financial commitments, and concrete action to protect people from the catastrophic health impacts of the climate crisis.

Since COP26 in November 2021, health initiatives on developing climate-resilient and low-carbon sustainable health systems were anticipated to be implemented globally. Foreseeing the growing climate crisis could potentially reversing decades of progress in global health, the World Health Organization (WHO), together with global health partners, mobilized the signatures of over 40 million health professionals calling for bold health and climate action at the Conference. WHO also released an Operational framework for building climate-resilient and low-carbon health systems, as a blueprint for a future-proof and sustainable health sector in an ever-changing climate.

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Introduction

As extreme weather events tend to increase in scale, frequency and intensity, climate change has become the single biggest health threat facing humanity, which affects not only physical environment but also all aspects of both natural and human systems – including social and economic conditions and the functioning of health systems.

These weather and climate hazards affect health both directly and indirectly, increasing the risk of deaths, noncommunicable diseases, the emergence and spread of infectious diseases, and health emergencies.

According to WHO, 3.6 billion people already live in areas highly susceptible to climate change. It is estimated that from 2030 to 2050, climate change might cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths per year, from undernutrition, malaria, diarrhoea and heat stress alone. Although it is unequivocal that climate change affects human health, it remains challenging to accurately estimate the scale and impact of many climate-sensitive health risks on different diseases. As climate change aggravates health conditions, we must explore the clear connections between climate change factors and diseases. To alleviate the devastating impacts of the climate crisis, policies for addressing both climate change and public health should be aligned synergistically. Moreover, for those existing preventive measures will need to adopt new interventions or strategies to dealing those newly emerging climate-related obstacles.

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Obejective

Advocate the climate change impacts on health. By sharing knowledge on connections between climate change and health, promoting policies and strategies that could mitigate the impacts, and adopting new measures/ideas for the prevention of reverse health events, such as NCDs and undernutrition,

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Registration