

Our Planet, Our Health

World Health Day 2022

Clean our air, water and food



Zoom platform



7 April 2022



9:00 - 10:15 a.m. EST



World Health Day is celebrated every year on 7 April to commemorate the anniversary of the founding of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1948.

Each year for this date, a theme is chosen that highlights an area of priority concern for WHO. In the face of the current pandemic, a polluted planet, and an increasing incidence of diseases, the theme for World Health Day 2022 is ***Our Planet, Our Health***. This call from PAHO, the WHO, and partners, presents a unique opportunity for a green and healthy recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, that puts the health of individuals and the planet at the center of actions and fosters a movement to create societies focused on well-being.

In recent decades, enhancements in health services, environmental protection, economic development, and other factors have led to improvements in the health of people across the Region of the Americas. Nevertheless, an estimated one million premature deaths per year are attributable to known avoidable environmental risks.

Air pollution, contaminated water, inadequate sanitation including solid waste management, risks related to certain hazardous chemicals, and negative impacts of climate change are the most pressing environmental public health threats in the Region. These threats to public health are compounded by weak governance practices and potential inequities in health as well as by limited leadership, expertise, and resources in the health sector.

However, this theme of ***Our Planet, Our Health*** should be a powerful reminder to us that the resolution of many of these issues are beyond the exclusive purview of the health sector and, as a consequence, an effective response will demand whole- of- government and whole- of- society approaches.

This World Health Day event will present the Region's vision together with inspiring stories from countries of the Americas about the actions that they are taking to build a world with clean air, safe water, and sanitation, where healthy food is available to all, cities are livable, economies are climate-resilient and focused on health and well-being. Furthermore, they are contributing to a world where all people, including those living in situations of vulnerability, can live longer, happier and thrive.

Agenda

Place: https://paho-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pJJ0_eCPQKSBK-Ez3Ly-8A

9:00 – 9:05 a.m.	Welcome Remarks	Master of Ceremonies: Dr. Marcos Espinal, Director, Communicable Diseases and Environmental Determinants of Health (PAHO)
9:05 – 9:15 a.m.	Health, Environment, and Climate Change in The Americas: Challenges and Opportunities	Dr. Carissa F. Etienne, Director, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
9:15 – 9:25 a.m.	Healthier Environments, Healthier People	Dr. Jacqueline Álvarez, Director, Latin America & the Caribbean UN Environment Program (UNEP)
9:25 – 9:35 a.m.	Accelerating the transition in Honduras to clean and healthy energy for all	Dr. José Manuel Matheu, Secretary of Health (Honduras)
9:35 – 9:45 a.m.	Health and climate change in Argentina	Dra. Carla Vizzotti, Minister of Health (Argentina)
9:45 – 9:55 a.m.	Building climate resilient health systems in the Caribbean	Dr. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health and Wellness (Jamaica)
9:55 – 10:10 a.m.	Discussion	Brief remarks by moderator and questions from the audience
10:10 – 10:15 a.m.	Final remarks	Dr. Jarbas Barbosa, Assistant Director (PAHO)