



Climate and health public engagement Leadership program

Topic area: Climate Change and Health Intersection

Session title: Health within Multilateral Negotiations

Funded by

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Agenda

- 01 Overview of global governance (10 min)
- 02 Health Governance through an environmental lens (5 min)
- 03 Global Environmental governance through a health lens (5 min)
- 04 The UNFCCC (5 min)
- 05 Group Discussion/Breakout (45 min)
- 06 Wrap up (15 min)

Implementing global governance hinges on the language embedded in its treaties.

Advocating for health requires informed engagement and strategic entry points in global debates and decision making bodies.

Health professionals need to understand the architecture of global environmental agreements if they wish to influence, change, or enhance them.

09:30       22%

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IX. Avoiding the use of emission reductions by more than one Party

Option A

81. A host Party shall apply a corresponding adjustment for all A6.4ERs first transferred consistent with decision X/CMA.2 (Guidance on cooperative approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement).

Option B

82. A host Party shall apply a corresponding adjustment for all A6.4ERs first transferred where they are [from the sectors and GHGs] covered by its NDC consistent with decision X/CMA.2 (Guidance on cooperative approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement).
83. A host Party shall apply a corresponding adjustment for all A6.4ERs first transferred where they are [from the sectors and GHGs] not covered by its NDC [from [2023][2025]] consistent with decision X/CMA.2 (Guidance on cooperative approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement).

1 Take home key messages

- Environmental governance is health governance
- Speaking the same language
- Health science and environmental policy must interface
- Health actors are expert stakeholders
- National implementation is global implementation
- Health considerations must inform planning

1 Overview of global governance

Multilateral Environmental Agreements

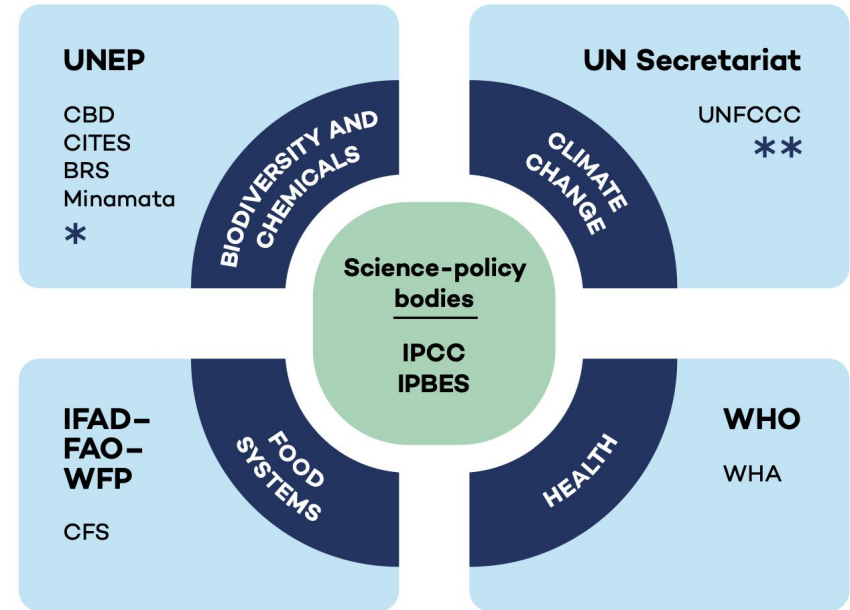
Selected Multilateral Environmental Agreements and international bodies

International UN bodies

- UN Environment Programme
- UN Secretariat
- World Health Organisation
- International Fund for Agricultural Development
- Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN
- World Food Programme

Agreements

- Convention on Biological Diversity
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystems Services (IPBES)
- World Health Assembly
- UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS)



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Intergovernmental meetings on biodiversity, climate change, chemical and waste pollution, and food systems

	Jan	
UN Environment Assembly	Feb	IPCC annual session (and as needed)
	Mar	IPBES plenary (every 2 years)
	Apr	CITES COP (every 3 years)
World Health Assembly	May	BRS Triple COP (every 2 years)
	Jun	UNFCCC SBSTA/SBI CBD SBSTTA/SBI/WG8J
High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development	Jul	
	Aug	
UN General Assembly	Sep	POPRC CRC
	Oct	CFS plenary CBD COP/MOP (every 2 years) CBD SBSTTA/SBI (annual)
	Nov	Minamata COP UNFCCC COP/CMP/CMA SBSTA/SBI
	Dec	

1 Overview of global governance

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MEA	CBD	IPBES	CITES	UNFCCC	BRS	Minamata	CFS
Year in force	1993	2012	1975	1994	1992 (B), 2004 (R & S)	2017	1974
Parties/members	196	137	183	197	188 (B), 164 (R), 184 (S)	135	133
Attendance	up to 8,000	800	1,700	>20,000	1,700	1,000	>1,600
Topic	Biodiversity		Climate Change		Pollution		Food Systems
Objective	Biodiversity: conservation, sustainable use, access, and benefit sharing	Science-policy evidence on biodiversity and ecosystems	Trade of wildlife and species survival	Stabilization of GHGs	Reducing risks from chemicals and waste	Protecting human health from anthropogenic mercury pollution	Food security and nutrition for all
Public health issues influenced by policies on this topic	Medicines, clean air and water, nutrition, infectious disease, mental health, pollution exposure, biotechnology, genetics, Traditional Knowledge		Emerging infectious disease and zoonoses	Heat stress, food and water security, respiratory disease and other non-communicable disease, infectious disease, nutrition, emergencies, trauma	Developmental disorders; neurological disorders; endocrine disruption; lung, skin, and eye disease; contaminated breast milk	Neurological and musculoskeletal disorders, vision impairment, congenital disorders	Malnutrition, food security, non-communicable disease (esp. diabetes, cardiovascular disease), obesity, stunting, wasting, anemia, biotechnology
Ministries negotiating	Environment, foreign affairs	Environment, foreign affairs	Environment, foreign affairs, trade	Environment, foreign affairs, finance	Environment; also agriculture, industry, health, customs/borders, energy, transportation		Agriculture, foreign affairs
Health ministers in attendance	?	?	No (?)	Yes; - 12% of parties (COP 26)	Yes	Yes	Yes; - 6% of members (CFS 49)
Negotiations: key focal areas for health issues (2022-2023)	Post-2020 global biodiversity framework; draft global action plan on biodiversity and health	Nexus assessment (biodiversity, water, food, health)	Consideration of an animal health surveillance mechanism	National communications; clean and efficient energy; future of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA); SLOPs; non-economic losses	Class-based listing of chemicals; potential new science-policy mechanism for addressing chemicals and waste; pharmaceutical pollution, medical instruments and medical waste; plastic pollution		Gender and malnutrition; inequalities; food safety
Negotiations: key entry point for technical participation on health	Subsidiary Body for Scientific, Technical, and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), Working Group Article 8(j)	Plenary; representation on the Multidisciplinary Panel of Experts	Standing Committee	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA); Nairobi work programme (NWP); KJWA; Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheik Work Programme; Expert Group on non-Economic Losses and the Santiago Network	Basel - Expert working group, Plastic Waste Partnership; Rotterdam & Stockholm - Chemical Review Committees	Ad hoc expert groups	Plenary; Civil Society Mechanism; Private Sector Mechanism
National-level assessments and plans	National biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), biodiversity impact assessments	-	-	Nationally determined contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Health National Adaptation Plans, Water Safety Plans	National implementation plans and national action plans		-
Global health guidelines important to the MEA	WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy, Akwé-Kon Guidelines	-	WHO guidance on the sale of live wild animals	WHO Global Air Quality Guidelines; WHO Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality	Numerous		WHO Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, 2013-2020

1 Overview of global governance

Multilateral Environmental Agreements



02 Health Governance through an environmental lens

02 Health governance through an environmental lens

How health engages with the environment

World Health Organisation and World Health Assembly

Health more important than we think

- WHO is custodial agency for 33 SDGs targets (more than any other UN agency)
- Comparatively larger role in environmental issues as it is the main agency overseeing targets directly related to the environment (water, waste, energy, air pollution, infectious diseases, and malnutrition)
- Most representatives from MEAs and most environmental organisations do not participate in the work of the WHO through WHA

03 **Global Environmental governance through a health lens**

Analysis of health in UN agreements

<https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18041664>

Table 2. Analysis of WHO building blocks across all four agreements.

Theme and Associated Sub-Themes				
Health Systems	Paris Agreement	SDGs	Sendai DRR	New Urban Agenda
Financing	×	✓	×	×
Service Delivery	×	✓	✓	✓
Health Information Systems	×	✓	×	×
Access to Essential Medicines	×	✓	×	×
Leadership/Governance	×	✓	✓	✓
Workforce	×	✓	✓	×

✓ indicates that the agreement mentions the theme, × indicates it does not mention the theme.

Table 3. Analysis of health outcomes across all four agreements.

Health Outcomes	Paris Agreement	SDGs	Sendai DRR	New Urban Agenda
Maternal, newborn and child health/mortality	×	✓	✓	✓
Sexual and reproductive health	×	✓	✓	✓
Infectious diseases	×	✓	×	✓
Non-communicable diseases	×	✓	✓	✓

Table 4. Analysis of health determinants across all four agreements.

Health Determinants	Paris Agreement	SDGs	Sendai DRR	New Urban Agenda
Environmental Health	×	✓	✓	✓
Food Security	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sexual and Reproductive Rights	✓	✓	✓	✓

Analysis of health in UN agreements

Table 5. Analysis of sexual and reproductive rights and food security sub-themes across all four policies.

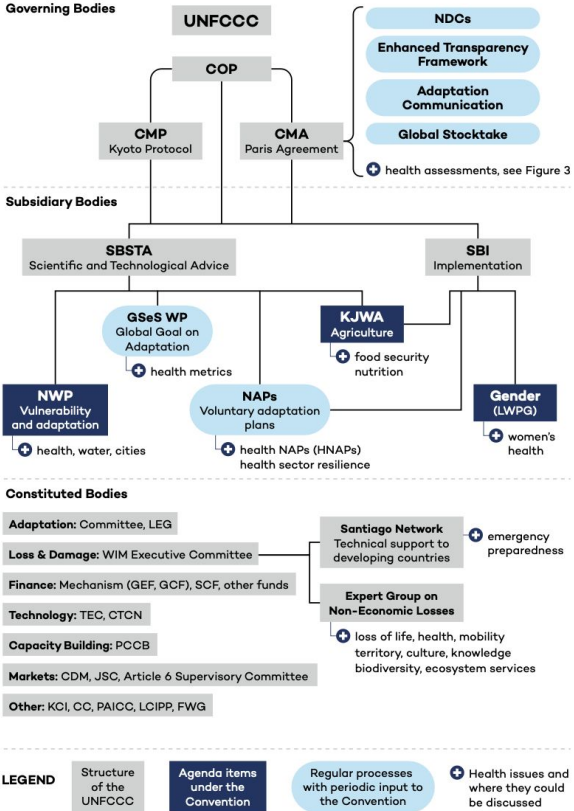
Sub-Themes	Codes	Paris Agreement	SDGs	Sendai DRR	New Urban Agenda
Sexual and reproductive rights	Gender Equality	✓	✓	✓	✓
	WASH	×	✓	×	✓
	Harmful practices—Female Genital Mutilation/Child, Early and Forced Marriage	×	✓	×	✓
	Sexual Harassment, exploitation and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)	×	✓	✓	✓
Food Security	Sustainable Agriculture	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Food and Nutrition	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Ending Hunger	✓	✓	✓	×

Table 6. Referenced links between the agreements.

		References			
		SDGs	New Urban Agenda	Sendai DRR	Paris Agreement
Agreements	SDGs		✓	✓	✓
	New Urban Agenda	✓		✓	✓
	Sendai DRR	✓	✓		✓
	Paris Agreement	✓	×	×	

05 The UNFCCC

5 The UNFCCC with a health lens



Party-Driven Work

NDCs

Obligatory pledges on emissions reductions
[every 5 years]

Enhanced Transparency Framework and Biennial Transparency Reports

Guidelines for reporting on mitigation, adaptation, and financial support
[every 2 years]

National Communications

Obligatory
[every 4 years]

Adaptation Communications

Obligatory reporting

NAPs

Voluntary plans

Potential Health Entry Points

Mitigation

Ambition
Types of pollutants

Adaptation

HNAPs
Health sector resilience

Co-benefits

Global Stocktake

For assessing implementation of the Paris Agreement, starting 2022-2023 and then every 5 years.

05 **Group** **Discussion/Breakout**

Health provisions are entry points to global environmental regimes. A useful starting point for drawing on existing provisions in multilateral, bilateral, and regional environmental treaties is the Health and Environment Interplay Database.

Health participation should focus on informed engagement aimed at the heart of a debate and the decision-makers involved. Health ministers should attend MEA meetings, and environment ministers should participate in health meetings. There is a “benefit to health” for environmental actors attending WHA meetings.

Health data should inform national plans on health risks, impacts, outcomes, and equity across MEAs. At the same time, work under the IPCC and IPBES should inform planning in the health sector and ministries of health. The precautionary approach is important.

Putting Health in Environmental Negotiations

[Linkt to Xxxx](#)

Reflections from Change Makers on their experience engaging with global environmental frameworks What were some of the challenges? What were some of the outcomes?

ACTIVITY GOALS

- In breakout groups take time to familiarise yourself with one or two of the global frameworks
- Talk through their relative objectives, ambitions, and what they seek to achieve based on your experience
- Develop a strategy for engaging with one or more of the frameworks. What are the entry points?
- What health messages will work best for each one? What are the synergies? Who are the other stakeholders that can participate?
- Feedback in plenary

	CBD	UNFCC	CFS	CITES	IPBES
Strength					
Weakness					
Opportunity					
Threat					

On the Miro board add reflections on Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats for engaging with certain environmental frameworks

