



16th European Public Health Conference 2023
Our Food, Our Health, Our Earth: A Sustainable Future for Humanity
9 - 11 November 2023, The CCD, Dublin, Ireland

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Climate change is a health emergency

9 November 2023

Many people in the world, in Europe as elsewhere, are now experiencing the health impacts of the climate emergency first-hand. Bush fires one day and floodings the next. As climate change accelerates, the health impacts on the most vulnerable populations become increasingly pronounced and alarming. Extreme weather events, disrupted ecosystems, and changing disease patterns are affecting the well-being of people worldwide.

Marginalized communities, including women and girls, refugees, the elderly, and those living in poverty, face disproportionate risks and consequences from the climate crisis. Recent reports, such as the [UNFPA and Queen Mary University of London joint study](#), underscore the exacerbation of existing inequalities. The study revealed alarming connections between climate change and adverse health outcomes, including earlier deliveries, stillbirths, and interruptions to maternal health services due to climate-related damage to health facilities. Gender-based violence and child marriage are on the rise as families under stress seek to marry off their daughters. Climate-induced migration, both internal and cross-border, is increasing. Concurrently, climate change is associated with rising violent crime rates and deteriorating mental health, particularly among youth.

Regien Biesma-Blanco, chair of the International Scientific Committee of the EPH Conference, said: “In this conference we will ask ourselves how we can improve our preparedness to address climate-related health crises, and how can we empower our public health professionals with the necessary knowledge and resources to effectively tackle the health consequences of climate change? We will also look at what actionable policies, regulations, and community-driven efforts must be put in place.”

This will be discussed in a Late Breaker session on Friday 10 November, 12:50 – 13:50 (Dublin time), Liffey B (Level 1).

More information about this session [here](#).

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More information:

- Website of the EPH Conference: www.ephconference.org
- About the European Public Health Association: www.eupha.org

For further enquiries and interview arrangements, please contact:

- Prof Anthony Staines: T +353 86 606 9713
- Assoc Prof Regien Biesma-Blanco: T +31 6 1145 7049
- Email: office@ephconference.eu

EUPHA

The European Public Health Association, or EUPHA in short, is an umbrella organisation for public health associations in Europe. Our network of national associations of public health represents around 25,000 public health professionals. EUPHA contributes to the preservation and improvement of public health in the European region through capacity and knowledge building. We are committed to creating a more inclusive Europe, narrowing all health inequalities among Europeans, by facilitating, activating, and disseminating strong evidence-based voices from the public health community and by strengthening the capacity of public health professionals to achieve evidence-based change.

EPH Conference

The European Public Health (EPH) Conference is an annually organised scientific conference on public health issues in Europe. Each year the conference is organised in a different country by the EPH Conference Foundation in close cooperation with one or more local partner(s). The conference actively seeks a larger partnership with other European NGOs, international health organisations and institutions. EPH Conference Foundation was established in May 2013 as a non-governmental and not-for-profit organisation at the initiative of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA). The Foundation is managed by the independent Executive Board.

EUPHA - European Public Health Association

E-mail office@eupha.org

Internet www.eupha.org

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EPH Conference

E-mail office@ephconference.eu

Internet <https://ephconference.eu/>

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