



Climate action through public health education and training

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Background: Climate-Health Education needs to be a priority.

Original Investigation | Medical Education



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Assessment of Climate-Health Curricula at International Health Professions Schools

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Article

Climate Action at Public Health Schools in the European Region

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RELEVANCE & SYNERGY

1

Climate action is at the heart of the European Green Deal.

2

It is essential that future health professionals have the knowledge to work on this wicked issue.

JOINT STATEMENT

- Implement climate and health education and training health professionals
- Implement good corporate citizen policies which demonstrate reducing carbon footprint



SYNTHESIS

Title:

Moving towards the right to 'health for all' by training the public health and wider health workforce on climate change and health

Joint statement by the EU Health Policy Platform's thematic network "*Climate action through public health education and training*"

Introduction

- Emphasis on a moral, ethical, environmental, economic, social and justice approach
- Re-iterate responsibility of public health and healthcare professionals in climate-health action
- Link to COVID-19 pandemic lessons/changes
- Education (undergrad/postgrad) + Continuous Professional Development must be updated

“Climate-health actions must respond to the growing climate emergency beyond simply preventing and treating disease, but also through reshaping practice in primary, secondary and tertiary prevention of further climate change.”

Actions

1. Acknowledging and disseminating the central role that a respectful relationship with the natural environment has on human physical, mental, spiritual, and social health and wellbeing.
2. Recognising the negative impacts of climate change on human health, and highlighting the co-benefits of climate change mitigation and adaptation actions to human health, such as active travel and affordable plant-based diets.
3. Supporting the evolving understanding of the relationship between climate change and mental health for people, and professionals, increasing exposure to high quality nature-based solutions such as green and blue spaces for all, and investing in empowering communities to sustain action to prevent and mitigate further climate change.

Actions

4. Intensifying the investment in interdisciplinary education and training for public health and healthcare professionals in existing curricula and including them into EU legislation for public health and healthcare professionals' education requirements to facilitate intersectoral action.
5. Building climate resilience, climate-health literacy and political literacy to enable public health and healthcare professionals to gain a deeper understanding of the changes that need to be implemented, and how to communicate the direct and indirect environmental impact of our health system, institutions and daily lives.
6. Including concepts such as One Health and Planetary Health in the development of public health and healthcare professionals' education frameworks in undergraduate, postgraduate and continuous professional development, recognising the ongoing contribution of experts and people with lived experience in these areas.

Actions

7. Providing voices for climate change education and response from among those communities who currently suffer the effects including generational inequalities and who will be most harmed by an inadequate public health response. Considerations include the development of robust mentorship structures, intentional recruitment, prioritisation of co-designing and co-development of climate-health actions for a unified approach.
8. Building trust across disciplines with those with wider public health responsibilities by focusing on anticipating and preventing adverse health effects derived from climate change on populations and ecosystems.
9. Promoting and implementing sustainable research and innovation in the EU's research-focused programmes such as Horizon Europe that emphasises preventing and minimising the impact of climate change on the health and safety of minoritised, excluded and remote populations, anchored in wider public health objectives.

Actions

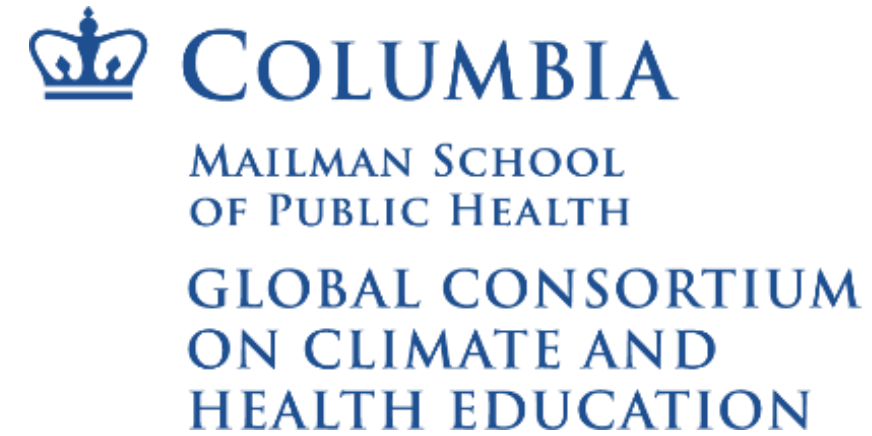
10. Promoting management of the health system within a transdisciplinary ecological approach, creating the conditions for making decisions informed by equity, ethics and collective rights, with a focus that minimises carbon emissions.
11. Recognising and enabling public health and healthcare professionals as essential partners and leaders in decision-making on mitigation and adaptation actions but also on climate change and disaster risk reduction and management at the local, regional, national and international levels.
12. Developing future public health goals, targets and indicators, that support the design and monitoring of strategic frameworks that produce mitigation programmes that lead to improvements in overall environmental health and health equity.

Actions

13. Supporting international agencies to synergise existing EU climate-health processes, policies, strategies and initiatives to develop a multi-level public health action framework to be applied in all world regions, including collecting and publishing the data that helps measure progress and consolidate implementation and monitoring of effective actions on adaptation and mitigation to shape climate policy.

Endorsements

Global Level Organisations



Europe Level Organisations



Academic Level Organisations



Country Level Organisations



Gesundheit Österreich
GmbH

LoSgio Landelijk Overleg
Sociaal-Geneskundigen
in Opleiding



**zorg voor
klimaat**

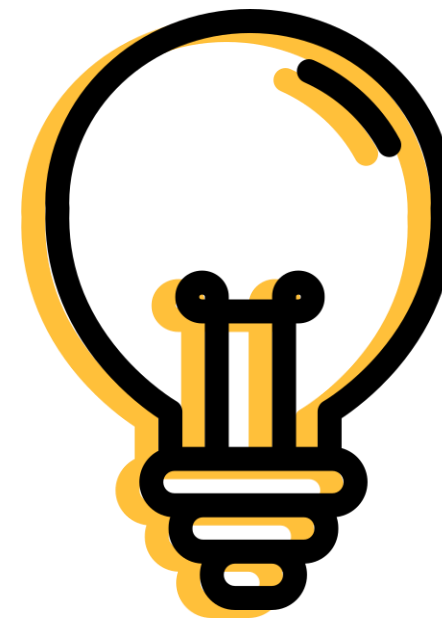



DE DUURZAME VERPLEEGKUNDIGE



Next Steps

- This document will be used for endorsements to set up good practices for their workplans with conscious thinking in regards to climate-health education practices
- Commitments = knowledge-sharing!



**Thank you for all your
support!**

#ClimateHealthEducation

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