



health

Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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12 July 2024
Environmental Health Practitioners
Research Institutions
Academic Institutions
Public Health officials
All interested parties

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS: 13TH WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DAY COMMEMORATION

The National Department of Health, in collaboration with Eastern Cape Department of Health and the Alfred Nzo District Municipality, will be hosting the 13th World Environmental Health Day (WEHD) commemoration. The commemoration will be held at the Wild Coast Sun in the Eastern Cape, Alfred Nzo District Municipality, from 25 to 26 September 2024. The theme for WEHD 2024 is **“ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: CREATING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES THROUGH DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION”**.

The event is dedicated to the celebration and promotion of environmental health services in addressing environmental health risk factors that communities are exposed to.

The objectives of the 2024 WEHD event are to:

- provide a platform for Environmental Health Practitioners (EHPs) and other key stakeholders to share scientific and operational research with an objective of strengthening evidence-based interventions
- identify gaps in implementation and context specific areas of good practice and share lessons learnt
- influence future policy actions and decisions to promote successful coordination towards the creation of resilient communities
- draw lessons from national and where possible international experiences in environmental health services approaches
- position environmental health services as fundamental to addressing the social determinants of health and in pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, drawing lessons from recent regional and national outbreaks

Department of Health • Lefapha la Pholo • Lefapha la Bophelo • uMnyango wezeMpilo • Muhasho wa Mutakalo • Departement van Gesondheid • Kgoro ya Maphelo • Ndzawulo ya Rihanyo • LiTiko le Thempilo • ISebe lezeMpilo • UmNyango WezamaPhilo

Batho Pele - putting people first

Stakeholders, EHPs and interested parties are invited to submit abstracts based on the following thematic areas:

THEMATIC AREAS	FOCUS TOPICS
Climate change and disaster management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of environmental health impacts of natural disasters e.g. climate events such as floods, elevated temperatures, etc. • Management of environmental health impacts of man-made disasters e.g. civil unrest, chemical explosion or spillages, burning of informal settlement, etc. • Multi-hazard disaster risk management. • Environmental management strategies in healthcare. • Waste management. • Any other related studies.
Environmental health in disease control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of environmentally induced communicable diseases e.g. waterborne diseases, foodborne diseases, etc. • Management of environmentally induced non-communicable diseases e.g. lead poisoning, mercury poisoning, pesticides poisoning, etc. • Emerging and re-emerging diseases. • Disease prevention, preparedness, surveillance and response. • Strengthening prevention, preparedness and response in environmental health. • The effects/impact of migration in relation to disease control. • Any other related studies.
Environmental health systems and institutional capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental health staffing. • Environmental health financing. • Environmental health regulatory framework efficiency and enforcement capacity. • Efficiency of environmental health operations. • Enforcement of environmental health laws. • Efficiency of environmental health policies. • Strengthening innovation and technology use. • Use of data or information to enhance environmental health. • Environmental health within primary healthcare. • Any other related studies.

THEMATIC AREAS	FOCUS TOPICS
Environmental health pollution control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste/land pollution control. • Air pollution control. • Noise pollution control. • Water pollution control. • Health impact assessment and risk assessment of development projects, plans and programmes. • Any other related studies.

Abstracts using the attached guidelines should be submitted via e-mail address:
WEHD2024abstract@health.gov.za

The following **important dates** regarding the submission should be noted:

- Closing date: 12 August 2024
- Confirmation of acceptance or rejection will be communicated by 30 August 2024

Cluster: Environmental and Port Health Services

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