

SIDE EVENT CONCEPT NOTE

Event title

Addressing the interconnected challenges of poverty, food security, and climate change through a One Health approach and effective governance and policy coherence.

Background and Rationale

The 2023 SDG report has shown the world is off track in achieving most of the SDGs and the COVID-19 pandemic and other multiple interlinked crises continue to impact the ability of the European region to achieve the SDGs, and a more integrated response is needed to overcome the multiple crises and accelerate progress.

The interconnected challenges of poverty as multidimensional issue, food security, and the complex challenges posed by climate change can be addressed through a One Health approach, supported by coherent policies and strong institutions.

The One Health approach aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems by mobilizing multiple sectors, disciplines and communities. The approach provides resilient and innovative solutions to combating poverty and improve the well-being of communities; access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food; contributes to the safety of the food supply chain and prevent the spread of infectious diseases; contribute to a more comprehensive and effective response to the complex challenges posed by a changing climate; and to promote collaboration across different sectors to overcoming the multiple crises we face. For example, COP28 on Climate highlight the critical role of One Health approaches in responding to climate challenges, as well as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (COP15) to be implemented through a One Health approach.

Against this background, this side event will bring together policy makers and practitioners from governments, sister UN agencies, academia, and other partners to showcase, how a One Health approach can provide an impactful solution to accelerate progress across the SDGs.

Session objectives and expected outcomes

The objective of the side event is to promote and advocate for the utilization of a One Health approach as a comprehensive strategy to address interconnected challenges, particularly focusing on the many facets of poverty, food security, and climate change. It will highlight the importance of integrating efforts across multiple sectors, disciplines, and communities to collaborate and implement coherent policies in order to accelerate progress and achieve the SDGs.

The side event is expected to lead to increased awareness and understanding about the interconnected nature of poverty, food security, and climate change, and an opportunity to share examples of policies, programs, and initiatives that promoted a holistic approach and addresses the interconnectedness of health, environment, and socioeconomic factors to contribute to sustainable development.



Organizers

Lead organizers: UNEP and WHO

Contributors: IBC-Health and Wellbeing

Agenda and Structure

The agenda for the session will be defined by the following questions:

Could the Budapest Environmental and Health outcome be used to accelerate SDG progress on the key transitions proposed?

How do we ensure the food systems transition proposed as one of the key accelerators across the SDGs doesn't contribute to GHGs, depletion of water resources, deforestation, food waste and loss, and loss of soil fertility to name a few? Can a one health approach play a role?

How does the One Health approach apply to food safety and how can it help reduce food safety risks?

How does the One Health approach consider and address social determinants of health, such as income inequality, access to education, and social cohesion?

How does the One Health approach ensure coherence in policies?

What challenges do you foresee in integrating social perspectives into One Health policies and programs, and how can these challenges be addressed?

List of Panellists

Speakers:

One Health partners (up to 5 speakers)

Moderator: Wondwosen (Wondy) Asnake KIBRET -UNEP and Svenja Herrmann (WHO)

Sign-up / Registration Link

<https://www.genevaenvironmentnetwork.org/events/addressing-the-interconnected-challenges-of-poverty-food-security-and-climate-change-through-a-one-health-approach-and-effective-governance-and-policy-coherence/>