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About Clim-Health Africa

Clim-Health Africa, established in 2013, is the International Network for Climate and Health for Africa. It is comprised of a group of African and international institutions, including the UN, academic, governmental and intergovernmental institutions and national and international NGOs.

New Directions: Dr Tedros, new WHO Director General, sets Climate Change Action as one of his Five Key Leadership Priorities



Clim-Health Africa welcomes Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus, former Minister of Health of Ethiopia, as the new Director-General of WHO. He was elected in May 2017 by Member States of WHO and began his five-year term on 1 July 2017. As Director-General of WHO, Dr Tedros will focus on five key areas, including, the [“Health impacts of Climate and Environmental Change”](#).

Aligned with the goals of Clim-Health Africa, his priority actions will focus on supporting national health authorities to better understand and address the effects of climate and environmental change on health.

“Developing and nurturing resilient and effective community based structures and multi-sectoral approaches is critical to prevent, mitigate and respond to the health impacts of environmental risk factors and climate change.” – Dr Tedros



KEY ACTIONS ARE EXPECTED TO INCLUDE:

- Promoting evidence-based decision-making and awareness through research and development, supporting global and regional coalitions and strengthening national capacity.
- Securing funding to address health impacts of climate change by advocating for increased financial allocations to mitigate the health impacts of climate change.
- Promoting sustainability through championing the use of low-carbon approaches in the health sector.

The Clim-Health Africa Secretariat welcomes Dr. Tedros and extends our enthusiasm to support this agenda in the Africa Region.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT DR TEDROS AND HIS PRIORITIES](#)

Highlights

ICCS5: Clim-Health Africa Partners Share Progress on the Development of Health-Tailored Climate Services

The fifth International Conference on Climate Services (ICCS5) was held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 28 March to 2 April. It brought together experts in climate science and users of climate information. Participants came from a wide range of sectors to explore issues and opportunities for climate services to better support risk management and adaptation to climate-related risks.

Throughout ICCS5, Clim-Health Africa partners underscored the importance

of climate services for health. They shared experiences of recent projects, demonstrated how climate and health information is being used in Africa, and conveyed the need for expanding research, capacity and service delivery.

Key topics at the conference included:

- Addressing emerging needs for national/regional emergency preparedness and management support.
- Aligning Clim-Health Africa to support

new policy landscapes and opportunities.

- Planning Clim-Health Africa Strategic Activities for 2017.

For more details, see reports from:

- [Clim-Health Africa panel discussion](#)
- [Climate and health project and research poster presentations](#)
- [ENACTS side event](#)
- [Clim-Health Africa strategic planning](#)



Clim-Health Africa partner, Hussein Mohamed, from the University of Dar es Salaam, presents a poster on the multi-faceted capacity building approach in Tanzania.



Clim-Health Africa partners from IRI present advancing science and applications at the ENACTS side event.



Tasiana Mzozo, a WHO Climate Preparedness Officer from the WHO Africa Regional Office, presents on Improving Climate Services' Responsiveness.

TDR IDRC Researchers Share Findings With Policymaker

After over three years of dedicated research, researchers shared their findings at a meeting co-organised by WHO's TDR (Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases) and AFRO (Regional Office in Africa) in Brazzaville in April 2017.

Research team leaders shared new evidence and knowledge on vulnerability to vector-borne diseases (VBDs) and strategies for increasing community resilience to climate change. The meeting participants also included policymakers from ministries of health and environment, partners from IDRC (International Development and Research Centre, Canada), UN Environment, ACMAD (African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development) and IRI

(International Research Institute for Climate and Society).

The work shared by the researchers helped further illuminate the linkages between climate and VBDs, such as malaria, schistosomiasis and Rift Valley fever. The meeting was an opportunity for researchers to engage policymakers in evidence-informed discussions, to adopt best practices and to consider policy options. To ensure the information was accessible and effectively communicated, written [policy briefs](#) were shared.

An exciting new Google Earth Engine "mapping" interface product for integrating trypanosomiasis and tsetse fly data with climatic and environmental factors was previewed to demonstrate its utility for control of VBDs.



Participants at the TDR IDRC Research Uptake Meeting.



Findings were shared with health and environment decision makers through [policy briefs](#).

[FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE TDR IDRC RESEARCH INITIATIVE](#)

New Resources

WHO UNFCCC – Climate and Health Country Profiles

How does climate affect my country? What is being done and what can be done to mitigate and adapt to climate change?

The WHO/UNFCCC profiles were developed to help UNFCCC negotiators and national governments better answer these questions. Thirteen profiles have been developed so far in Africa, presenting available national data for six key thematic areas.



ENACTS – National Climate Services Now Active in Eight Countries

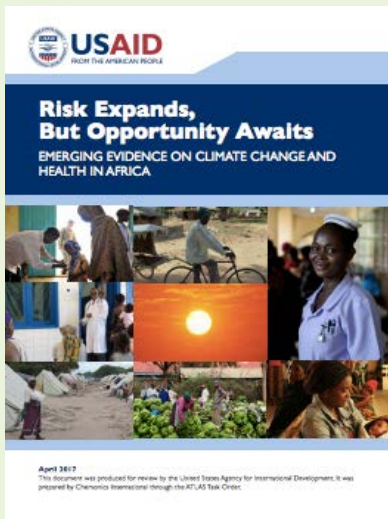
General global statements about likely impacts of seasonal weather variation and climate change on health are only useful to a degree. Understanding national and local risks is needed to take proper action.

The Enhancing National Climate Services Initiative (ENACTS), led by the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), is helping address this gap by improving the availability and quality of climate information at national and subnational levels. The initiative supports national meteorological and hydrological services (NMHSs) to improve national climate observations and provides training to health researchers and practitioners for the development of climate-smart policies and programmes.

[VIEW THE PROFILES AND FIND MORE INFORMATION HERE](#)

USAID - Risk Expands, But Opportunity Awaits: Emerging Evidence on Climate Change and Health in Africa

In April 2017, USAID released a report summarising recent evidence for climate risks to the health sector in Africa. This report covers climate impacts on undernutrition, vector-borne diseases, cholera and diarrhoeal disease, heat stress, and meningococcal meningitis, as well as presenting the impacts of ENSO on Africa. The report offers practical guidance for frameworks for action and opportunities to address these risks, which include becoming involved with the Clim-Health Africa Network.



[DOWNLOAD THE REPORT](#)



ENACTS is offered in eight countries: [Madagascar](#), [Tanzania](#), Ethiopia, [Zambia](#), Ghana, [Kenya](#), [Mali](#), and [Rwanda](#).

[FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ENACTS MAPROOMS](#)

Country Experiences

Climate and Health Communication Strategies in Malawi and Tanzania



Communicating the importance of climate change and health in compelling, evidence-based and actionable ways remains a challenge for researchers and policymakers in most countries.

In Malawi and Tanzania, with the technical support of WHO, GFCS and

NORAD, the ministries of health have developed specific communication strategies to communicate key messages with diverse audiences that can be used as communication examples for other countries.

Opportunities and Upcoming Events

Opportunities

1. Future Earth travel grants for early career professionals

Future Earth's travel grants provide early career professionals with the opportunity to participate in events all around the world and contribute actively to the Future Earth initiative.

2. Opportunities for Africa (OFA) - Academic and Career Development

Opportunities for Africa (OFA) is an online information portal that seeks to connect Africans to the latest opportunities from around the globe.

3. Afya Bora Fellowships in Global Health Leadership

The Afya Bora Fellowship in Global Health Leadership is an innovative 12-month fellowship that prepares African and U.S. health professionals to lead and manage major health programs in African countries.

4. American Association of University Women (AAUW) International Research and Studies Fellowships

International Fellowships are awarded for full-time study or research in the United States to women who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

5. Join the Future Earth Health Knowledge-Action Network

The network brings health researchers together with health and environmental policy experts, the private sector, and civil society to promote research regarding the interactions between environment and health.

6. Future Earth Open Consultation on Research Priorities for Health, Climate and Environment

Future Earth invites contributions to defining research priorities for health, climate and environment as inputs into a [Belmont Forum](#) scoping process for a future [Collaborative Research Action](#).

7. Publication and Journal Opportunities – New Journals: Lancet Planetary Health, Elsevier Climate Services

8. Call for applications: Support to research institutions and organisations in Sub-Saharan Africa

Norad invites research institutions and research organisations based in Sub-Saharan Africa to submit applications for funding.

Upcoming Events

1. African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology, Addis Ababa,

15-17 September 2017

Strengthening Climate and Disaster Resilience in Africa for Sustainable Development: Role of Weather, Water and Climate Services

2. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting,

Atlanta USA, 4-8 November 2017

Creating the Healthiest Nation: Climate Changes Health

3. GEOMED 2017, Porto, Portugal,

7-9 September 2017

International conference on spatial statistics, spatial epidemiology, and spatial aspects of public health: Deeper insight from big data and small areas

Share Your Achievements with the Clim-Health Africa Network

We invite you to [complete a survey](#) to share your contributions to the [goals of the Clim-Health Africa](#). This may include research and publications, training programmes, projects, operational and policy achievements or other relevant actions. Please take the time to fill in this 5-10 minute survey.

Become a Member

The effects of climate change are being felt across the African continent at an increasing pace, but so too is our capacity to mitigate and adapt to these impacts. Through working together, we can share

knowledge, resources, and opportunities, and further the impact of our individual contributions to tackling climate change and its effects. If you are conducting work that contributes to the [goals of Clim-](#)

[Health Africa](#), become a member by sending an Expression of Interest letter and information about your institution to the Clim-Health Africa Secretariat at info@climhealthafrica.org.

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