# Perspectives in Public Health proposed special issue: The Climate Crisis is a Public Health Crisis





Environmental change is one of the biggest threats to human and planetary health of our time. But tackling it in a fair and inclusive manner could also be the greatest public health opportunity this century. The impacts of environmental change on human health are far-reaching and multi-layered; from the short and long-term impacts of extreme weather events and biodiversity loss to the threat of expanding vector-borne diseases and air and water pollution. For billions of people, these threats require urgent action. As we rapidly consume our 'carbon budget' to keep the world at 1.5°C above preindustrial temperatures, urgent research, thinking, policy and action around mitigation and adaptation strategies that leave no-one behind are direly needed.

This Perspectives in Public Health Special Issue is a call to action and invites original research, reviews, short reports, current topics and opinions, in practice and feature submissions that explore the intersections of climate change and public health, including impacts, mitigation and adaptation strategies, and opportunities. For this special issue, special consideration will be given to articles authored by those living in areas most directly affected by climate change.

### **Topics of Interest:**

We welcome submissions on a wide range of topics, including but not limited to:

Health impacts of environmental change:

- Impacts of extreme weather events on physical and mental health and wellbeing
- Changes in the prevalence and distribution of infectious diseases including vector transmitted diseases
- Impact of air and water quality and pollution on health

#### Vulnerable populations:

- Health inequalities and the disproportionate effects of climate change on left-behind communities
- Strategies to protect vulnerable populations, which can include e.g. children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing health conditions

Mitigation and adaptation strategies:

- Health policies and interventions to mitigate the effects of environmental change
- Community-based adaptation strategies
- Role of healthcare systems in responding to climate-related health challenges

#### Molecular mechanisms:

- Cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying impacts of environmental change
- Adaptation mechanisms and cell, tissue and organ responses to e.g. pollution and heat stress

## Sustainable practices and health:

- Promotion of sustainable practices, including but not limited to healthcare systems and settings
- Relationship between sustainability initiatives and public health outcomes
- Impact of interventions such as behavioural change, healthier and more sustainable diets, active transport and physical activity and housing on climate and health

Local, regional, national or global perspectives and policy:

- Studies on climate change and health impacts in local, regional or national settings, particularly in the Global South
- Studies highlighting successful interventions and policies
- International cooperation, knowledge exchange and policymaking in addressing climate change and health in a joined-
- Policy and implementation of climate and public health actions, including towards reducing inequities and inequalities
- Policy and quantification of climate co-benefits of public health actions

If you would like to express an interest, please contact: Guest Editor, Dr Lisa Ackerley: lisaackerley@icloud.com Guest Editor, Dr Pedro Beltran-Alvarez: Pedro.Beltran-Alvarez@hyms.ac.uk

Joint Editor, Dr Theo Stickley: theo.stickley@gmail.com

The deadline for submissions is 31 March 2025. Authors should submit via our online submissions system: https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/pph.

