

Country: India



Committee: WHO

Topic: The impact of climate change on global health and mitigation strategies in India

Climate change is one of the most pressing challenges of the 21st century, significantly affecting global health, particularly in countries like India with its vast population, diverse geography, and socio-economic vulnerabilities. Below are some key impacts of climate change on health in India:

- 1. Heat-Related Illnesses** : Rising temperatures and heatwaves are increasing the incidence of heatstroke, dehydration, and cardiovascular stress . --Heatwaves in how many of states have led to thousands of deaths in recent years.
- 2. Waterborne Diseases** : •Heavy rainfall and frequent floods contaminate water supplies, causing outbreaks of diseases like cholera, diarrhea, and hepatitis A .
- 3. Vector-Borne Diseases** : •Changing weather patterns create favorable conditions for disease vectors like mosquitoes. •Diseases like malaria, dengue .
- 4. Malnutrition and Food Security** : •Erratic weather and changing rainfall patterns negatively impact agriculture, reducing crop yields and food availability. •Rising food prices and declining nutritional quality of crops contribute to product, especially among children and pregnant women .
- 5. Air Pollution and Respiratory Illnesses** : The Air pollution, intensified by climate change, leads to increased cases of asthma, bronchitis, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
- 6. Psychological and social impacts** : Climate change has led to population displacement (climate migration), which has increased psychological problems such as anxiety and depression. Farmers whose incomes have decreased due to drought or floods are at risk of suicide.
- 7. Inadequate Healthcare base** : • India's healthcare systems, particularly in village areas, are ill-equipped to handle the increasing burden of climate-induced health crises. • Emergency preparedness for disasters like floods, cyclones, and heatwaves is often inadequate.
- 8. Infectious Disease Outbreaks** : • Warmer temperatures and altered ecosystems may lead to new outbreaks of infectious diseases or the re-emergence of diseases like Zika and avian flu.

Strategies for Mitigation and Adaptation : To address the health impacts of climate change, India can adopt the following measures :

- 1. Make more forceful Healthcare Systems**• Improve access to healthcare in village areas and develop early warning systems for climate-sensitive diseases.
- 2. Building Climate-flexible base**• Invest in water, sanitation, and emergency response systems to mitigate the effects of floods and droughts.
- 3. Promoting Sustainable Practices**• Encourage sustainable agriculture, reduce air pollution, and adopt renewable energy sources to limit greenhouse gas emissions.
- 4. Education and Awareness**• Boost public awareness about climate-related health risks and preventive measures.
- 5. Policy and International** : • Strengthen national climate policies and collaborate globally to address the root causes of climate change.

Conclusion

India, as one of the most climate-vulnerable nations, faces significant health challenges from climate change. Proactive measures and global cooperation are essential to mitigate its effects and safeguard public health. Addressing these issues will require an integrated approach involving government action, community engagement, and sustainable development practices.

References :

Climate change and vector-borne diseases in India (salamat magazine) <http://Salamat.ir>

Air pollution in India breaks world record . <http://Khabarfarsi.com> , <http://Breathlife2030.org>

US-India partnership to combat climate change , <http://Share.america.gov>

India's initiatives for cleaner air , <https://Share.america.gov>

Climate change in India, <http://Fa.wikipedia.org>