



**CONCEPT NOTE: NASAC Workshop at the Science Forum South Africa**

**TOPIC: Climate Change and Health in Africa – a Scientific Perspective**

**DATE: 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023, TIME: 0930hrs – 1300hrs (South Africa)**

**VENUE: CSIR International Convention Centre, Pretoria, South Africa**

**Introduction:** Climate change is one of the most significant global challenges of our time, with far-reaching implications for various sectors, including public health. Africa, as a continent, is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, which threaten the well-being of its populations and place additional burdens on healthcare systems. This event seeks to provide a platform for scientific discussions and insights into the complex relationship between climate change and health in the African context.

NASAC aspires to provide credible science advice and amplify *the voice* of science in key global conversations, a proposal was made to hold a dissemination workshop at the Science Forum South Africa (SFSa) 2023. In line with the overall theme of SFSa, the workshop will focus on Igniting Conversations among various stakeholders on the impact of Climate Change and Health in Africa anchored on the NASAC report.

The [NASAC proposed event](#) at SFSa offers a vital opportunity for networking, learning, and contributing a science voice to Africa's critical conversation on climate change and health. The SFSa shall be a platform that brings together scientists, researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders to discuss and showcase scientific advancements, innovations with the intention of **Networking for collaboration and partnerships, Knowledge Sharing and Interdisciplinary Insights and Engagement with policy- and decision-makers for credible contribution to policy influence on climate action.**

**Event Objectives:**

1. **Scientific Understanding:** To foster a better scientific understanding of the current state of climate change in Africa and its impact on public health.
2. **Dissemination of key report findings:** To provide a platform for dissemination and insightful discussions on the topic with forum participants and science experts.
3. **Resilience and Mitigation:** To discuss scientific approaches to building public health resilience and implementing mitigation strategies in the face of climate change in Africa.

**Event Format (Workshop):**

- **Keynote Presentation:** A scientific overview of climate change in Africa and its impact on public health.
- **World Café Session:**
  - **Objective:** To foster collaborative discussions to explore the multifaceted aspects of climate change and its impact on health in the African context.
  - **Setup:**
    1. **Groups and Rounds:** It is anticipated that participants will discuss in three groups, each with a specific focus and two questions related to climate change and health in Africa.
    2. **Facilitators:** A facilitator for each group shall guide the discussions, capture key points and note the common perspectives.
    3. **Rotations:** Participants shall move tables and swap the questions in 2 rounds in order to achieve diverse points on the same topics.
- **Target Audience - Participants already at the Science Forum South Africa**
  - Researchers and scientists with an interest and expertise in climate change and public health.



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- Policy makers and government officials involved in health and environmental policies.
  - Health practitioners, including doctors, nurses, and public health experts.
  - Science Academies, NGOs, international organizations, and stakeholders working on climate change and health issues in Africa.

**Expected Outcomes:**

- Enhanced scientific knowledge and insights into the climate-health nexus in Africa.
- Improved awareness of the methodologies and research findings informing climate change and health discussions.
- Identification of scientific strategies for addressing environmental determinants of health.
- Collaboration and networking opportunities among participants.

**Organizers:** The event is organized by the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC)

**Anchor Publication:** The NASAC report on, "[Protecting human health against climate change in Africa](#)".

**Conclusion:** NASAC's event at SFSa shall enhance its role as a convening power of scientific and thematic experts, a credible voice of science advice in the continent and a networking strength for fostering collective action towards Africa's shared prosperity in Science, Technology and Innovation.