The second Bonn Dialogue on Environment and Health

Nature, biodiversity and health:
Green and blue spaces for promoting health

8 December 2021
10:00–11:30 Central European Time (CET)
with an optional session to meet experts for questions and answers (11:30–12:00 CET)

Register for the event here
Follow the live event here

English with simultaneous translation into Russian

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The second Bonn Dialogue on Environment and Health is focused on nature, biodiversity and health. This topic is regarded as a rapidly emerging area of work, the interest for which has significantly and swiftly increased in recent years. This is in part due to the COVID-19 crisis, which has brought to the fore the complex relations between human health and the natural environment.

The Dialogue also aims to give new impetus to the promotion of health and well-being through informed decisions on the local planning and management of green and blue spaces.

The main objectives of this Dialogue are:

• to take stock of the latest evidence to develop a shared understanding of the impacts of the natural environment on human health, including mental health;
• to exchange views on policy opportunities, emerging approaches and good practices to design and implement policies that promote health through investments into the protection of nature and biodiversity;
• to highlight tools in support of policy-making.

The event is open to all European Environment and Health Task Force members, who are nominated representatives of ministries of health and environment and of relevant stakeholders – including researchers, educators, students, policy advocates and managers – as well as civil society and the general public.

Read and learn more about the WHO European Environment and Health Process [here](#).
Welcome and introduction
10:00–10:10
- Dr Hans Henri P. Kluge, WHO Regional Director for Europe
- Ms Simona Bieliūnė, Adviser to the Minister of Health, Lithuania
- Ms Lea Wermelin, Minister for the Environment, Denmark

Setting the scene: scientific background and evidence
10:10–10:30
- Nature, biodiversity and health – an overview on interconnections
  - Dr Ben Wheeler, Senior Lecturer, WHO Collaborating Centre on Natural Environments and Health, University of Exeter
- Green and blue spaces and mental health: new evidence and perspectives for action
  - Dr Sjerp de Vries, Senior Social Scientist, Wageningen Environmental Research

Round table discussion
10:30–11:00
- Moderated by Dr Sinaia Netanyahu, Programme Manager, Environment and Health Impact Assessment, WHO ECEH
- Mr Humberto Delgado Rosa, Director, Natural Capital, Directorate-General for Environment, European Commission
- Ms Signe Nepper Larsen, Deputy Director, Danish Nature Agency, Ministry of Environment of Denmark
- Ms Rūta Baškytė, Deputy Director, State Service for Protected Areas under the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania
- Mr Wondwosen Asnake Kibret, Policy and Partnerships Coordinator, United Nations Environment Programme
- Dr Ximena Goldberg, Assistant Research Professor, Non-communicable Diseases and Environment, Barcelona Institute for Global Health

Questions and answers
11:00–11:15

Tools supporting policy-making
11:15–11:25
- GreenUr: the Green Urban spaces and health tool
  - Dr Pierpaolo Mudu, Technical Officer, Living and Working Environments, WHO ECEH
- Blue space and health – Decision Support Tool
  - Mr Matthias Braubach, Technical Officer, Environment and Health Impact Assessment, WHO ECEH

Closing remarks
11:25–11:30

Optional sessions: Tool workshops and Meet the expert sessions for questions and answers
11:30–12:00 (only one room with interpretation into Russian)
- Plenary. Ask the experts: Links between nature, biodiversity and health – mental health impacts of green and blue spaces (English and Russian)
- Room 1. Workshop: Green space and health – application of the GreenUr tool (English only)
- Room 2. Workshop: Blue space and health – application of the Decision Support Tool (English only)