

Call for Papers

Intersections between climate, health and social inequalities

Abstract submission

15 May 2024

Manuscript deadline

15 September 2024

Article collection guest advisor(s)

Dulce Ferraz, *Fundação Oswaldo Cruz-Brasilia*

e-mail address: dulce.ferraz@fiocruz.br

Laura Ferguson, *University of Southern California Institute on Inequalities in Global Health*

e-mail address: laura.ferguson@med.usc.edu

Richard Parker, *Columbia University*

e-mail address: rgp11@columbia.edu

The climate crisis is one of the most urgent matters of our time. Rising temperatures, changing rainfall patterns and increasingly frequent severe weather events are changing the geographical distribution of existing diseases, exacerbating their impacts and leading to the emergence of new diseases. They can also lead to socio-environmental disasters resulting in food and water insecurity, loss of livelihoods, forced displacements, and financial precarity, which are all linked to exposure to health-related risks. In addition, they hinder health services availability and accessibility, with changing health needs and overwhelming demand, relocation of financial and human resources, and changes in the landscape that affect transportation to health facilities, for example. Even as these phenomena are experienced all around the globe, their negative impacts do not affect all populations in the same ways, with the highest burden befalling the most vulnerable populations on the planet.

The negative effects of climate change on global health are already evident and will become even more severe if the international agreements established to help manage it continue to be inadequately enforced. These impacts are characterized by inequalities, with profound implications for societal cohesion and solidarity.

In this context, and particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, approaches that recognize the interdependence of and aim to optimize the health of people, animals, and ecosystems, such as One Health, Planetary Health and Eco Health emerge as important guides for global health research and intervention. However, while these approaches contribute to a comprehensive understanding of health, it's crucial to avoid technocratic applications that may obscure the role of social inequalities in how both health and climate are experienced. Technocratic and biomedical solutions have often been prioritized over those focusing on social transformation in the realm of infectious diseases, and, even as these solutions fell short during COVID-19, they continue to prevail in the debates around public health preparedness that have gained force since this pandemic. If we want to avoid the risk of a catastrophic synergistic effect of the health and global climate crises on the most vulnerable populations on the planet, it will be necessary to confront the systems of power and privilege that produce them in the first place, and to work towards achieving health justice and climate justice.

In this Call for Papers, Global Public Health invites authors to present their contributions to these key intersections between health, climate and social inequalities. We hope to strengthen the evidence base for why it is so critical to understand how the inequalities arising from the health and climate crises are created, perpetuated and exacerbated, as well as how we might think about responses, situated in the current political context, centring communities and promoting equity, justice and accountability.

We welcome papers drawing on empirical data, as well as theoretical and methodological pieces, discussing the intersections between climate, health and social inequalities. Topics to be addressed include, but are not limited to:

- Systems of power and privilege shaping the health and climate crises and how they are experienced
- The political economy of climate change and health
- Intersectional approaches to how social inequalities shape communities' health conditions and exposures to health and environmental risks
- Exploration of the gendered impacts of climate change on health
- Intersections and synergies between issues of health justice and climate justice
- The role of solidarity, including interspecies solidarity as well as solidarity across justice movements, in the struggles for health and climate justice
- The role of community-based organizations and action in the struggles for health and climate justice
- Communities' perceptions and priorities in face of uncertainty and danger regarding climate and health
- How healthcare systems need to evolve to respond to changing health needs arising from climate change, with attention to serving the populations most impacted
- Critical approaches to pandemic preparedness

- Integration of One Health/planetary health/eco health and human rights-based approaches to health
- Governance and accountability in the context of climate change and health

Articles may take the format of one of the following three options:

1. **Original Articles** – present original research or theoretical or conceptual arguments. If the article will present data collected with human subjects, the study must have passed through IRB review in the authors’ institution and relevant bodies in the country where the research was conducted (if applicable). Word limit 7,500.
2. **Research Report** – present an analytical perspective of a specific context, initial reflections from research in course, and/or first-hand information and accounts from the authors’ field of research. Research reports should not incorporate systematically collected quantitative or qualitative data into the analysis. Word limit 7,500.
3. **Commentary** – reflection on a broader field of analysis that expresses a clear opinion and generally draws on previously published research or field reports to make an argument. Between 1,500-4,500 words.

Abstract submission by 15 May 2024: Please submit abstracts (200 words maximum) for consideration to gphclimateandhealth@gmail.com by May 15th, 2024, with e-mail subject line “Climate, Health and Social Inequalities Abstract”. Include a working title, abstract, author names, their primary affiliations, proposed article type and a contact e-mail address.

Authors selected for submission of full manuscripts will be notified by 15 June 2024. Selected authors should submit full manuscripts by **15 September 2024**, following the submission instructions available on the journal’s website (<http://www.tandfonline.com/rgph>).

Please note that all submissions must be made in English. Unfortunately, the journal does not have the necessary resources to publish in other languages.

Inquiries: For inquiries, please email gphclimateandhealth@gmail.com

Bios and institutional webpage addresses for guest editors

Laura Ferguson is an associate professor of population and public health sciences at the University of Southern California, and the director of research at the USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health. Her research focuses on understanding and addressing health system and societal factors affecting health and the uptake of health services as well as developing the evidence base of how attention to human rights can improve health outcomes.

<https://globalhealth.usc.edu/about/our-team/core-faculty/laura-ferguson/>

Dulce Ferraz is a public health analyst at Fundação Oswaldo Cruz, where she teaches at the School of Public Health, in Brasília. She is also an associated researcher at the Pôle de Psychologie Sociale, at Université Lumière Lyon 2. Her research focuses on the psychosocial dimensions of health, emphasizing their connections with human rights and social disparities. She has a keen interest in community-based research methodologies, aiming to address health challenges within diverse populations.

Richard Parker is Professor Emeritus of Sociomedical Sciences and Anthropology and a member of the Committee on Global Thought at Columbia University, as well as Director of the Brazilian Interdisciplinary AIDS Association (ABIA), Co-Coordinator of Sexuality Policy Watch (SPW) and Editor-in-Chief of *Global Public Health*. His research focuses on the social dimensions of gender and sexuality, the social aspects of HIV and AIDS, the politics of global health and the role of social movements and community mobilization in responding to key public health challenges.

<https://www.publichealth.columbia.edu/profile/richard-parker-phd>

<https://cgt.columbia.edu/about/about-cgt/people/committee-faculty/richard-g-parker/>

<https://abiaids.org.br/categoria/institucional/diretoria-conselho-institucional>

<https://sxpolitics.org/about-us>