

Lancet Countdown submission to GST focussed exchange

09 November, Sharm el Sheikh

The [Lancet Countdown](#) is an academic initiative of nearly 100 academic institutions and UN agencies. Our initiative captures global and regional progress on health and climate change for 43 indicators, spanning mitigation, adaptation, finance, response measures, and loss and damage.

We believe that monitoring the public health implications of the implementation of the Paris Agreement can build broad support for ambitious action, and is necessary to safeguard the health and wellbeing of current and future generations. In this sense, progress on public health can be considered as a cross-cutting measure for assessing progress towards the Paris Agreement goals.

As various Parties have highlighted, the GST needs to reflect both environmental AND social goals, including equity, health, and human rights. Placing these social goals at the centre of the GST, and accurately monitoring these goals, would ensure we don't forget that raising ambition is first and foremost about safeguarding the health and wellbeing of people.

There are already a variety of existing health metrics that could feed into the first GST, including multiple indicators of climate risks and impacts to health.

The Lancet Countdown has already developed a global evidence infrastructure to monitor overall progress on health and climate change, and works closely with regional and national partners to provide more regionalised monitoring and evidence-based policy recommendations. This includes monitoring through regional centres in Africa, Asia, Europe, South America, Australia, and Small Island Developing States. Our efforts are grounded in existing country-led monitoring, data systems, and policy priorities while providing global and regional snapshots.

Examples of regional monitoring and evidence infrastructures on climate and health that make use of our indicators include the European Climate and Health Observatory, as well as the Climate Vulnerable Forum's Risk Monitor. Robust monitoring and evidence infrastructure also needs to be in place at a national level, in order to help close data gaps, monitor progress, and inform policy.

We believe centring health and equity goals in the GST is crucial to maximise the co-benefits of low emissions and climate resilient-development pathways, while minimising risks for the most vulnerable communities.

Thank you.