

## 20<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Urban Health

*Celebrating 20 Years of a Global Commitment to*

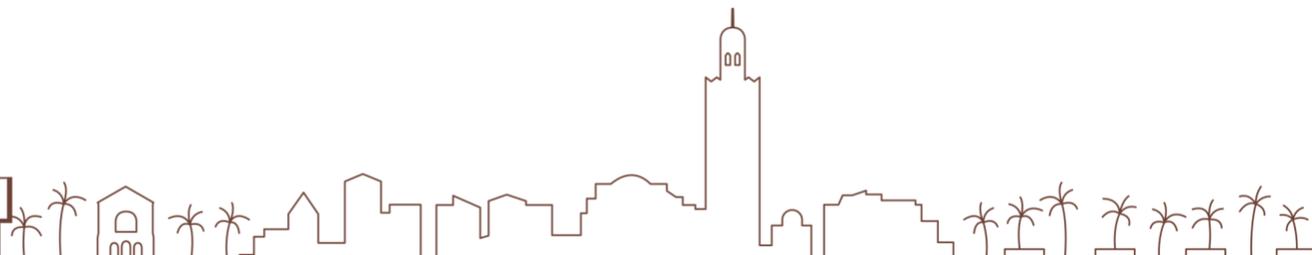
*Improving Urban Health for All*

### Call for Proposals

***A Healthier Horizon:  
Activating Urban Health Strategies for  
a Climate Resilient Tomorrow***

November 18-21, 2024 | Marrakesh, Morocco

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: June 1, 2024**

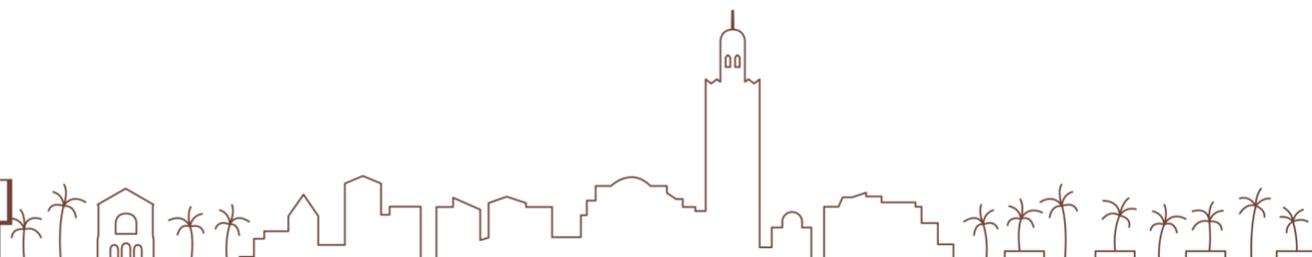


Join us for ICUH 2024, where our vision for *A Healthier Horizon: Activating Urban Health Strategies for a Climate Resilient Tomorrow* aims to unite the leading urban health scholars and changemakers across the spheres of research, policy, practice, and business. As the world's foremost urban health conference brought to you by those who founded and shaped the field of urban health, we invite you to contribute to a pivotal dialogue that aims to reshape our cities into centers of health, equity, and sustainability in an era increasingly defined by the complex pressing challenges of climate change.

We are calling for dedicated urban health leaders to join us to present innovative research, transformative practical approaches, and scalable solutions that can navigate and lead the charge to address the urgent environmental and social challenges threatening urban vitality today. By participating, you'll be placing yourself at the forefront of urban health discourse, creating impactful connections with leaders, scholars, and practitioners, and fostering partnerships that pave the way for groundbreaking interventions that can improve health for urban dwellers worldwide.

This year, ICUH 2024 is casting a wide net, welcoming abstracts, and presentation proposals within six key thematic areas designed to spotlight the interdisciplinary nature of urban health and its confluence with climate resilience. Whether you're an academic leading the latest study, a policymaker crafting sustainable urban plans, an urban or healthcare practitioner on the front lines, or a business leader driving public health innovation, your contribution is crucial.

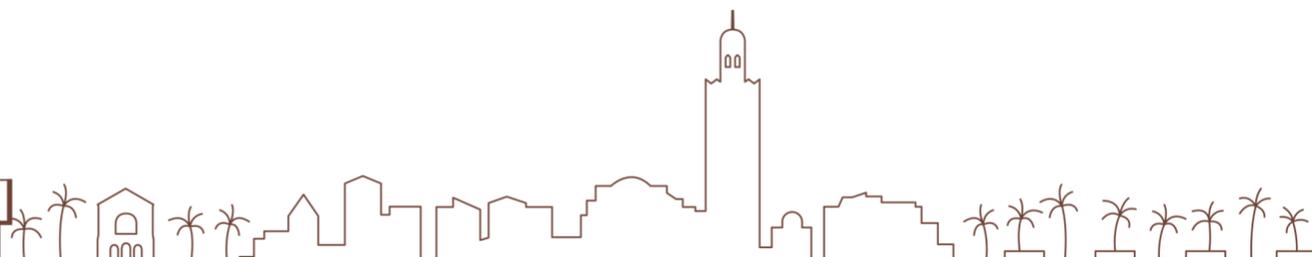
We invite you to join us to take advantage of this unparalleled opportunity to make your mark on a prestigious international platform, recognized as the oldest and most esteemed in the field of urban health. Let your insights catalyze change and earn the recognition you deserve. Submit your abstracts and proposals, and together, let's redefine the health of our cities for generations to come.



When submitting your proposal, kindly take note of the guidelines below.

**General Guidelines for Submission:**

- Authors can submit a maximum of 2 proposals. Please do not submit multiple copies of the same proposal/ abstract.
- Each presenting author is responsible for ensuring that all authors listed on the proposal & abstract have been notified of the submission being made.
- Proposals & Abstracts must be submitted online via the ICUH 2024 website only. Proposals & Abstracts submitted by email will not be accepted.
- Proposal & Abstracts must be submitted in English, except for a limited number of submissions to the Africa regional theme, which will also be evaluated and accepted in French.
- Use only standard abbreviations. Place any special or unusual abbreviations in parentheses after the full word the first time it appears in the text.
- Presenting authors must disclose any conflicts of interest in the submission form.
- Presenting authors must register and attend ICUH 2024 in Marrakesh in order to present.



## Submission Types

There are several formats to choose from for your submission. Please indicate which format you will be using in your submission form.

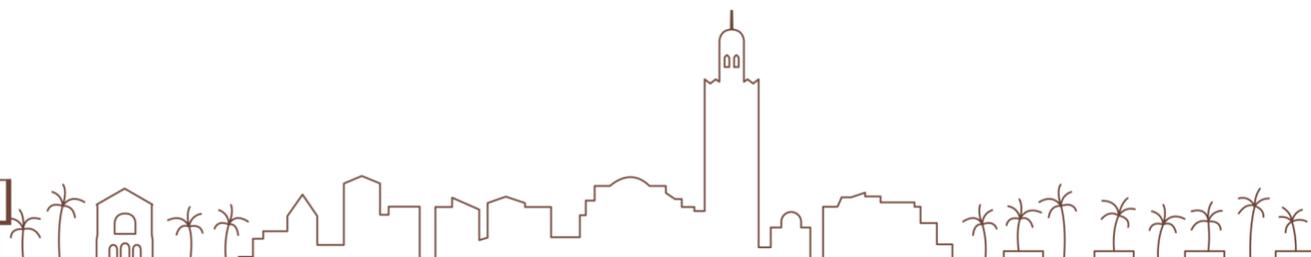
These include:

- **Oral Presentations (15 minutes)**
  - Research Abstracts
  - Policy, Project, Initiative and Case Study Presentations
- **Interactive Workshops (45-60 minutes)**
  - Audience engaging activities, please specify requested materials below
- **Pre-formed Panel Discussions (45-60 minutes)**
  - Please specify all speakers that will attend and present
- **Poster Presentations (exhibited for the duration of the conference)**
- **Special Events (e.g. site visits, walking tour, media exhibition, etc.)**
  - Please describe proposed session, duration, and logistics in your submission

## Proposal Details

*Proposals must include the following:*

- Type of submission
- Name, contact information and affiliation of presenter(s) attending ICUH
- Name(s), email, and affiliation of contributing authors
- Proposal title (as you would like it to appear on the program)
- Proposal description (350 words max)
- Relevant conference theme



## Deadlines

- **Opening:** Call for Submissions opens **Friday, 5 April**
- **Closing:** All proposals must be submitted no later than **Saturday, June 1**
  - *Please note:* Submissions made after the deadline will **not** be accepted or evaluated to be included in the conference program
- **Evaluation:** **1 June – 1 July**
  
- **Decisions:** Notification of proposal acceptance will be sent to the submitting author by **Monday, 15 July**
  - Authors may check the system to view proposal status
- **Registration:** The deadline for all presenters to be included in the program is **Friday, 16 August**

## Acceptance and Registration

All presenters wishing to attend the full conference must:

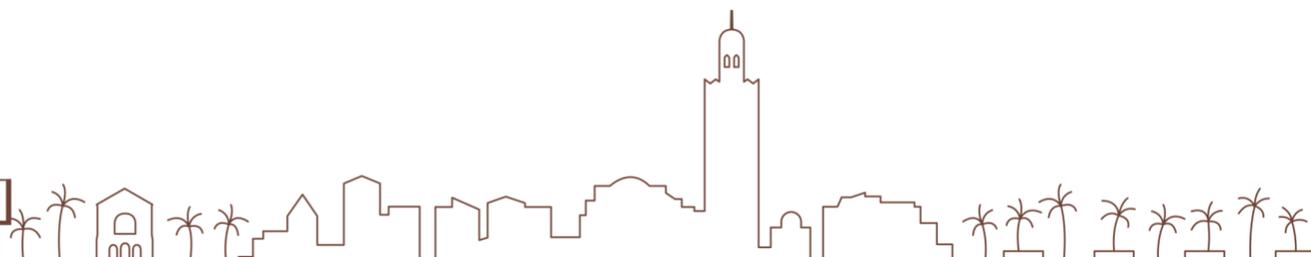
**ISUH members:** Upon acceptance you will be issued a presenter registration code to register with the member discount.

If you are not accepted for an oral presentation but you have been accepted as a poster, then we still invite you to join us at ICUH by registering [here](#).

## Submission Themes & Key Topics

The International Conference on Urban Health welcomes presentation submissions related to these guiding themes.

1. Equitable Urban Futures in a Changing Climate
2. Building Climate-Resilient and Adaptable Urban Environments
3. The Mental Health Impacts of Climate Change
4. Environmental Stressors on Chronic & Infectious Diseases
5. Strengthening Health Systems for Climate Action
6. Africa's Path to a Climate Resilient Urban Future



## ICUH 2024 Theme Descriptions

### 1. **Equitable Neighborhood Health in a Changing Climate**

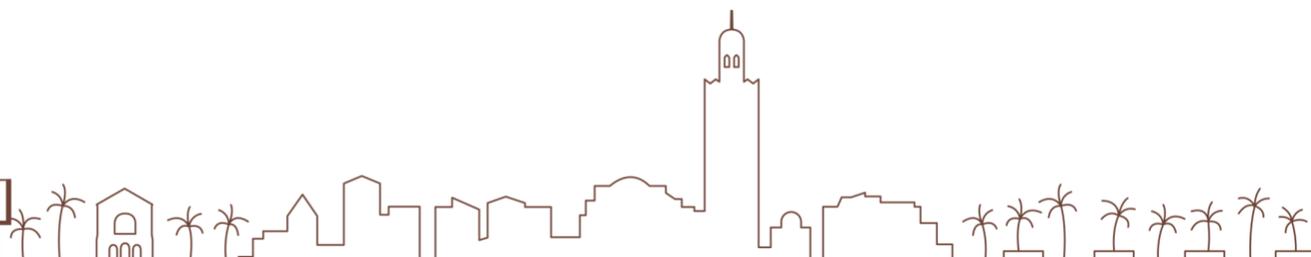
Explore the intersection of climate change and social determinants of health in urban settings, emphasizing equitable solutions that prioritize vulnerable populations and the urban poor.

**Key Topics Include:** Health disparities in climate impacts, inclusive urban policy frameworks, community-led health equity and resilience initiatives, neighborhood determinants of health, community-driven engagement and participation models, innovative intervention approaches and/or funding models for more equitable health outcomes in the face of climate change.

### 2. **Building Climate-Resilient and Adaptable Urban Environments**

Focus on integrating resilience into urban planning and development to create cities that are prepared for and can adapt to climate change while maintaining public health for all residents with a focus on upstream environmental prevention.

**Key Topics Include:** Hot and dry cities, land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid lands, desertification, green and blue infrastructure, nature-based solutions and biomimicry, innovative WASH infrastructure and water efficiency technologies, sustainable urban planning and design, active transportation planning, disaster risk reduction, air quality, pollution, and respiratory health, urban heat islands and cardiovascular risks, food systems, nutrition, and resilience in urban governance.



### 3. The Mental Health Impacts of Climate Change

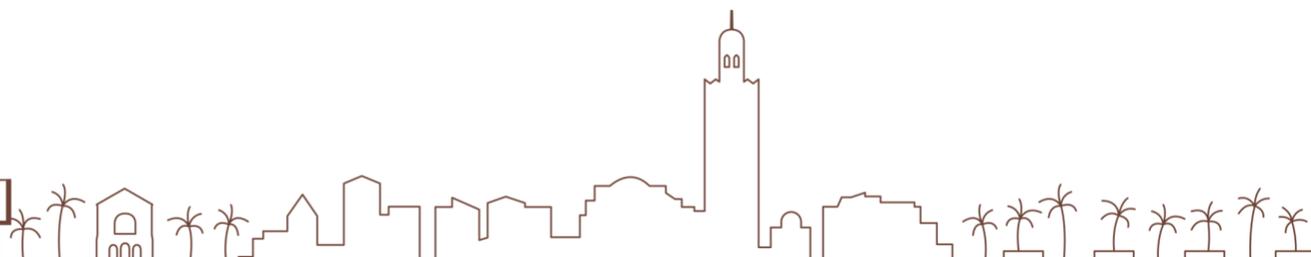
Address the often-overlooked psychological effects of climate change, including stress and trauma related to extreme weather events, economic disruption, and longer-term climate impacts and anxieties.

**Key Topics Include:** Mental health services provision post-disaster, strategies for strengthening community connection, community mental health strategies, resilience-building through social support networks, innovative approaches to community mental health care strategies and resilience building.

### 4. Environmental Stressors on Chronic and Infectious Diseases

Investigate the links between human, animal, and environmental health, examining how climate-driven environmental changes catalyze a rise in chronic diseases and zoonotic diseases within urban ecosystems.

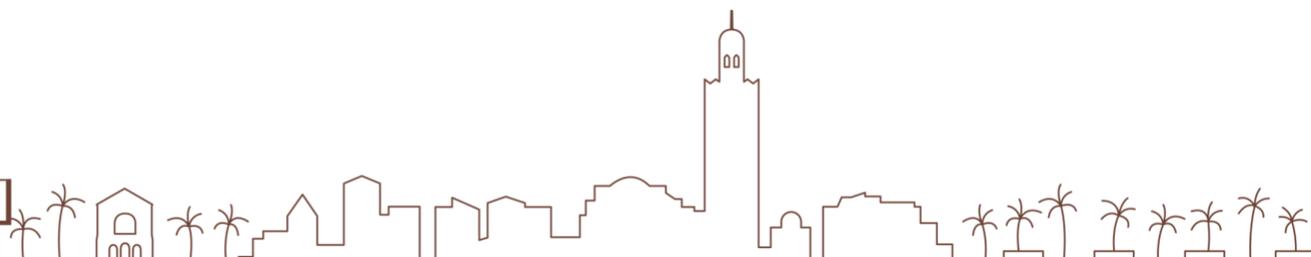
**Key Topics Include:** Climate change and zoonotic spillover, urbanization and chronic health conditions, eco-health and disease prevention, public health infrastructure and ecosystem integrity, exploring stressors including cataclysmic events (natural disasters), stressful life events (illness or changes in health status), lifestyle stresses (stressful commutes), and ambient stressors (such as air pollution and noise pollution), the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health and the impacts of health, intersectoral collaboration for One Health.



## 5. Strengthening Health Systems for Climate Action

Discuss the dual role of health systems in mitigating climate change and adapting to its effects, while maintaining and improving public health prevention, infrastructure, and services to better anticipate and manage the health effects of climate change, ensuring upstream action on the determinants of health, resilience, and equity in urban health delivery.

**Key Topics Include:** Climate-informed disease surveillance systems, resilient health infrastructure development, measuring and advancing lower-carbon healthcare infrastructure and service delivery, innovative approaches to environmentally responsible health care, health systems emergency preparedness, innovative financing for climate health interventions, community healthcare networks, the role of health systems in supporting upstream action on the determinants of health in climate policies, health systems strengthening through collaboration with other disciplines and sectors.



## 6. **Africa's+ Path to a Climate Resilient Urban Future: Navigating Water and Heat to Shape Healthier Cities**

Within the dynamic nexus of urban health and climate resilience, Africa stands as a beacon of longstanding environmental ingenuity and a case study of the necessity for urgent action. Discover the continent's proactive climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, offering a global model for environmental responsibility in rapidly growing urban contexts. Examine how essential elements like water scarcity, desertification, and urban heat islands are being addressed to fortify Africa's cities against the looming threats of climate change. This theme aims to inspire dialogue, share cross-continental wisdom, and build partnerships for future collaboration, ensuring that the rich tapestry of African innovation informs and enriches the global urban health discourse.

**Key Topics Include:** Local and regional climate and health action plans, innovative water management, heat resilience for health, urban-rural linkage strategies, renewable energy in healthcare, post-disaster resilience planning and regional cultural dimensions of climate resilience.

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Need help?

Questions regarding abstract submission can be sent here:

[icuhquestions@isuh.org](mailto:icuhquestions@isuh.org)

**We look forward to receiving your submissions and  
welcoming you to Marrakesh!**

