



# GLOBAL HEAT HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK SOUTHEAST ASIA

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Heat Resilience & Performance Centre  
Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine



WORLD  
METEOROLOGICAL  
ORGANIZATION



World Health  
Organization

JOINT OFFICE FOR CLIMATE AND HEALTH

# ABOUT THE HUB



GLOBAL HEAT HEALTH  
INFORMATION NETWORK  
SOUTHEAST ASIA

## PURPOSE

A platform for Southeast Asia to collectively prepare for and protect the population from the health impacts of extreme heat

## AFFILIATION

A regional hub of the Global Heat Health Information Network (GHHIN)

## SECRETARIAT

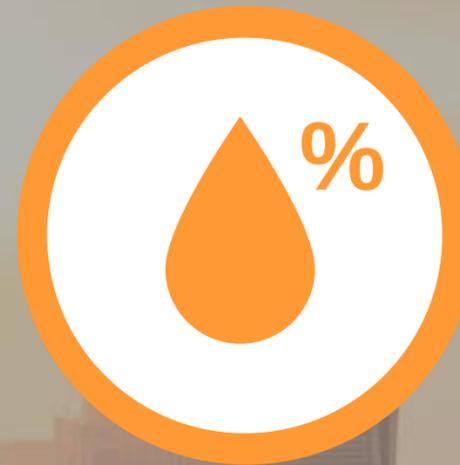
Anchored at the Heat Resilience & Performance Centre (HRPC)  
of NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore



# OUR UNIQUE CHALLENGE



High  
Temperatures



High  
Humidity



Sustained  
Exposure



# HEAT IMPACTS: THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG

HEAT STROKE  
& DEATH



INCREASED HOSPITALISATIONS



STRAIN ON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM



INCREASED ACCIDENTS,  
TRAUMA & SUICIDES



ECONOMIC &  
PRODUCTIVITY LOSS



GLOBAL HEAT HEALTH  
INFORMATION NETWORK  
SOUTHEAST ASIA



REDUCED  
PHYSICAL  
ACTIVITY



MYOPIA



INCREASED  
RISK TAKING



MENTAL HEALTH  
DETERIORATION



IMPAIRED DECISION  
MAKING



IMPAIRED  
FERTILITY



CHRONIC EXPOSURE  
HEALTH ISSUES



OTHER UNKNOWN  
IMPACT

# INDIRECT HEALTH IMPACTS

# OUR GOALS

## PEOPLE

**Connect** people and institutions to form multi-disciplinary partnerships to reduce heat risks

## SCIENCE & INFO

**Accelerate** the generation of evidence, actionable knowledge, standardised guidance, risk metrics, & effective communication

## ACTION

**Catalyse** regional, national and local policy and action to minimise societal consequences of heat impacts



GLOBAL HEAT HEALTH  
INFORMATION NETWORK  
SOUTHEAST ASIA

# OUR OBJECTIVES & FOCUS AREAS



GLOBAL HEAT HEALTH  
INFORMATION NETWORK  
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Strengthen Heat  
Governance & Integration



Invest in Heat Risk  
Reduction



Understand Heat  
Risk



Enhance  
Preparedness



OBJECTIVES

FOCUS AREAS



Weather & Climate



Traditional & Cultural  
Practices of Heat  
Management



Public Health



Urban Heat



Heat at Work



# THE STEERING COMMITTEE



**A/Prof Jason Lee (Chair)**  
Director  
Heat Resilience & Performance  
Centre  
National University of Singapore



**Dr Eduardo P. Banzon**  
Director, Health Practice Team  
Human and Social Development  
Sector Office  
Asian Development Bank



**Dr Sushma Bhusal**  
Regional Thematic Lead,  
Health and Care,  
IFRC Asia Pacific



**Mr Ben Churchill**  
Director  
WMO Regional Office for Asia and  
the South West Pacific



**Dr Jeffery Cutter**  
Senior Consultant  
Ministry of Health, Singapore



**Ms Sally Edwards**  
Coordinator  
Health and the Environment  
WHO-Western Pacific Region  
(WPRO)



**Prof Ollie Jay**  
Director  
Heat and Health Research Centre  
and Thermal Ergonomics Laboratory  
University of Sydney



**Ms Koh Li-Na**  
Asst Chief Executive / Director-General  
Meteorological Services and  
Radiation Protection  
National Environment Agency, SG



**Mr Aslam Perwaiz**  
Executive Director  
Asian Disaster Preparedness  
Center



**Ms Xiaoyan Qian**  
Director of ILO Decent Work  
Technical Support Teams (DWT)  
for East and South-East Asia and  
the Pacific  
International Labour Organization



**Mr Hussain Rasheed**  
Director, Healthier Populations and  
Non-Communicable Diseases  
WHO-South East Asia Region (SEARO)



**Ms Sarah Rauzana  
(Youth Representative)**  
Chairperson  
ASEAN Youth Organization



**Prof Ren Chao**  
Professor  
Faculty of Architecture  
University of Hong Kong



**Dr Joy Shumake-Guillemot**  
Lead  
WHO-WMO Joint Office for  
Climate and Health



**Dr Sanjay Srivastava**  
Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction  
United National Economic and Social  
Commission for Asia and the Pacific

# STAKEHOLDER MAP

## Weather & Climate



Related countries:



## Health



Related countries:



## Disaster



Related countries:



## Academia & Research



Related countries:



## Urban Development



Related countries:



## Occupational & Economics



Related countries:



## Finance & Philanthropy



# OUR 2025 WORK & PROGRESS REPORT



GLOBAL HEAT HEALTH  
INFORMATION NETWORK  
SOUTHEAST ASIA

**23**

**ENGAGEMENT  
SESSIONS**

## Led dedicated GHHIN Southeast Asia Hub sessions

- ASEANCOF-24
- ADB INSPIRE Health Forum

## Invited speaker at 21 events

- Sunway University Media Training Workshop
- WHO WPRO Community of Practice Webinar
- ARCDAP Fourth Workshop on ASEAN Regional Climate Data Analysis and Projections
- WHA78 Side Event - Temperatures Rising: Preparing and Protecting for Extreme Heat
- IWMI Early Warning for Heatwaves Webinar
- Asia Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS) Conference
- ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Forum (ASUF): High-Level Forum 4 – Climate and Disaster Resilient Cities: Fostering Healthy Communities and a Healthier Planet
- 2025 Heat Early Warning System Symposium: Predicting, Monitoring & Communicating Risks of Heatwaves
- CARE for SEA Megacities and CORDEX-SEA Technical and Stakeholder Workshop
- Asia Insurance Review's 21st Nat CAT\* and Climate Change Conference
- SRC Humanitarian Conference and Volunteer Convention (HCVC)
- EJN Ask Me Anything
- Inaugural Western Pacific Action Forum on Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems: Strengthening Health Systems for a Changing Climate — Action for Today, Readiness for Tomorrow
- Digital health & climate crisis working group Monthly Meeting webinar
- 2025 Milken Institute Asia Summit
- AeHIN Hour
- World Health Summit 2025
- 5th World Health Forum
- South-east Asia Physical Activity Conference 2025 (SEAPAC)

**17**

**CORE  
ACTIVITIES**



## 2 KEY ACTIVITIES

- First SEA Heat Health Forum
- Journalism Fellowship & Virtual Roundtable



## Authored 3 articles 1 Forum Report



## Reviewed & Contributed to 7 Reports and 1 Statement

## Submitted 2 grant proposals



## Coordinating Virtual Special Issue

# LESSONS LEARNED, APPROACHES & STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES (1)



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## **Contextualising Global Discussions**

- Emphasis on relevant thematic focus areas
- Addressing the issue of chronic heat in tropical climates
- Positioning heat not as a sectoral issue, but a cross-cutting, overarching challenge

## **Multidisciplinary Steering Committee**

- High-level cross-sector membership has brought diverse perspectives and strategic direction
- Anchored the regional problem-setting and approach at the outset of the Hub's setup

## **Broad Stakeholder Engagement**

- Informing key activities, priorities, and collaborations
- Ensuring work is relevant, inclusive, and actionable

# LESSONS LEARNED, APPROACHES & STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES (2)



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## **Guiding Norms of Engagement:**

- Use don't do. Integrate don't recreate. Leverage don't duplicate.
- Aim for progress, not perfection.
- Provide guidance, rather than dictate country plans.
- All our decisions are grounded in research, science, and evidence.

## **Ongoing Strategic Activities:**

- Heat-health Terminology Guide: establishing common definitions and translations for accessibility
- Stocktake of Heat Governance in the region: Mapping policies, gaps, and institutional responsibilities across the region
- Expanding health evidence base for decision-making



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# THANK YOU!

<https://heathealth.info/southeastasia/>



EXPRESS INTEREST TO JOIN THE HUB



ACCESS RECORDINGS & MATERIALS OF  
THE FIRST SEA HEAT HEALTH FORUM



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