

4. Belém Health Action Plan

The Belém Health Action Plan (Bhap) Was Launched at Cop30 Held in Belém, Brazil, As the First-Ever Global Framework Dedicated to Addressing the Vital Intersection Between Climate Change and Health Risks. Bhap Marks A Landmark Global Initiative to Put *Health at The Heart of Climate Adaptation*, Acknowledging That Climate Change Is No Longer Just an Environmental Crisis but A Direct Public Health Emergency. It Responds to Rapidly Escalating Climate-Linked Health Threats Such As -

1. Intensifying Heatwaves,
2. Rising Vector-Borne Diseases Like Dengue/Malaria,
3. Air Pollution-Related Illnesses,
4. Threats To Food Systems, Water Availability, And Nutrition Security,
5. Increasing Frequency of Extreme Weather Events (Cyclones, Floods, Droughts).

By Doing So, Bhap Elevates the Health Agenda at Cop30 and Ties Global Climate Action Directly to Human Well-Being.

Guiding Principles of Bhap

Health Equity - Prioritizes People Who Face Disproportionate Climate Impacts, Including Low-Income Groups, Indigenous Communities, Coastal Populations, And Marginalized Communities.

Climate Justice - Recognizes That Countries and Groups Contributing Least to Global Emissions Face the Highest Burden of Climate-Related Diseases, Demanding Fair Allocation of Resources and Responsibilities.

Participatory Governance - Ensures That Communities, Local Governments, Scientists, And Civil Society Actively Shape Adaptation Strategies. Encourages Bottom-Up Decision-Making to Ensure Contextually Appropriate Solutions.

Alignment With Cop30 Agenda - Bhap Advances Objective 16 Of the Cop30 Action Agenda, Which Focuses on Strengthening Health System Resilience Amid Climate Stress. It Integrates Health Considerations into Every Stage of Climate Planning — From Risk Assessments to Policy Design and Investment Priorities.

Core Goals of Bhap

Integrate Health into Climate Action - Ensure National Climate Strategies (Naps, Ndc, Lts) Systematically Include Health-Sector Priorities.

Address And Reduce Health Vulnerabilities – Minimize Health Exposure to Climate Stressors (Heatwaves, Pollution, Disease Outbreaks).

Roadmap For Resilient Health Systems – Provide Actionable Frameworks for Countries to Build Climate-Proof Health Infrastructure, Diagnostics, Workforce Capacity, And Emergency Preparedness.

Strengthen Community Participation – Encourage Grassroots Engagement to Ensure Adaptation Strategies Reflect Lived Local Realities and Indigenous Knowledge Systems.

Three Lines Of Action With 60 Action Items

1. Climate-Informed Health Surveillance & Early Warning Systems – Strengthen Integrated Surveillance Systems Capable of Detecting Climate-Induced Health Risks. Use Meteorological, Hydrological, And Public Health Data to Improve Disease Prediction. Expand Community-Based Monitoring to Detect Outbreaks Early. Invest In Ai-Driven Models for Rapid Warning About Heatwaves, Air-Quality Deteriorations, Or Vector Proliferation.

2. Evidence-Based Policies, Strategic Planning & Capacity Building – Align National Health Policies with Latest Scientific Assessments. Promote Equity-Centered Interventions for Vulnerable Groups (Women, Indigenous Peoples, Elderly, Children). Encourage Intersectoral Collaboration Among Climate Ministries, Health Institutions, Disaster Management Authorities, And Agriculture/Water Departments.

3. Innovation, Production & Digital Health – Support R&D To Create Climate-Adaptive Medical Tools, Infrastructure, And Technologies. Strengthen Local Production of Essential Medicines and Adaptation-Related Equipment (Cooling Technologies, Vaccines, Ppe). Scale Telemedicine, Mobile Health Apps, And Remote Diagnostics, Especially for Areas Affected by Extreme Weather.

Climate And Health Funders Coalition

Introduction – A Global Philanthropic Alliance Formed to Address the Dual Crises of Climate Change and Public Health Through Integrated Funding.

Funding Commitment – Initial Pool Of \$300 Million, Intended to Support Climate-Health Adaptation Globally. Funds Will Prioritize Lmics (Low- And Middle-Income Countries) Where Vulnerabilities Are Highest.

Membership – Includes Leading Global Philanthropies Such As – Bloomberg Philanthropies, Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), Gates Foundation, Ikea

Foundation, Quadrature Climate Foundation, The Rockefeller Foundation, Philanthropy Asia Alliance, Welcome Trust.

Rationale – About 3.3 billion People Live in Climate-Vulnerable Zones. Rising Risks From –

1. Extreme Heat,
2. Worsening Air Pollution,
3. Vector-Borne Diseases,
4. Water And Food Insecurity.

The Coalition Supports Integrated Solutions That Reduce Underlying Climate Drivers While Strengthening Health System Responses.

Significance Of Bhap

Mainstreaming Health in Climate Policy – Health Becomes a Cross-Cutting Pillar in Global Climate Negotiations. World Bank Estimates That Climate Change Could Cause 14.5–15.6 million Deaths By 2050, Highlighting Urgency.

Building Climate-Resilient Health Systems – Encourages Adaptation Planning Driven by Justice, Equity, And Community Participation. Helps Bridge the Global "Adaptation Gap", Especially in Vulnerable Nations.

Boosting Adaptation Funding – Over 35 Philanthropies Pledged \$300 Million At Cop30, Signaling Growing Prioritization of Climate-Health Linkages.

Key Challenges

Funding Deficit – Current Funding Is Far Below the Required Annual Us\$11 billion For Minimum Global Health Adaptation. Between 2019–2023, Only 4% Of Climate Adaptation Finance Went to Health. Only 44% Of Countries Have Costed Their Health-Adaptation Needs.

Complexity Of Integration – Aligning Financial Flows, National Governance Structures, And Community Participation Remains Difficult. Fragmented Data Systems Impede Integrated Climate-Health Responses.

Limited Government Adoption – While Praised Globally, Bhap Has Limited Formal Adoption by National Governments. Implementation Remains Voluntary and Dependent on Political Will.

Vulnerable Groups at Higher Risk – Climate-Related Health Impacts Disproportionately Affect –

1. Women,
2. Youth,

3. Indigenous Peoples,
4. Persons With Disabilities,
5. Migrants,
6. Rural Poor.

Tailored Adaptation Strategies Are Essential to Avoid Widening Inequalities.

Way Forward for Effective Implementation of Bhap

Integrate Bhap into National Frameworks – Countries Should Embed Bhap Actions Within Ndc's, Naps, Health Sector Policies, And Disaster Management Plans.

Mobilize Innovative Finance – Explore New Financial Instruments Such As –

1. Blended Finance,
2. Climate-Health Bonds,
3. Risk-Pooling Facilities,
4. Philanthropic-Public Partnerships.

Build Workforce Capacity & Empower Communities – Train Health Workers in Climate Epidemiology and Emergency Response. Strengthen Local Leadership Through Participatory Planning. Ensure Meaningful Inclusion of Marginalized Groups.

Promote Research & Technological Innovation – Invest in Climate-Informed Health Analytics, Digital Platforms, And Resilient Infrastructure. Support Indigenous and Local Environmental Knowledge.

Strengthen Global & Regional Cooperation – Develop Joint Cross-Border Early-Warning Systems. Enhance Knowledge Sharing Across Who, Unep, Wmo, And Regional Health Alliances. Standardize Climate-Health Surveillance Methodologies.

Source – <https://Indianexpress.Com/Article/World/Climate-Change/Belem-Action-Plan-For-Health-And-Climate-Adaptation-Launched-300-Mn-Committed-For-Health-Impacts-Of-Climate-At-Cop30-10366656/>