

NC-India FE South Asia Webinar Series – I

on

Air Quality, Climate and Health :

Air Pollution and Health – What do we know and how far do we have to go?

ABSTRACT OF THE TALK

Air pollution is now recognised as the largest environmental health risk globally. Exposure to household and ambient air pollution causes an estimated 8 million premature deaths each year, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), and is responsible for a substantial amount of disability for those living with diseases caused by air pollution. While most people in the world live in areas that exceed health based WHO guidelines for air quality, the impacts on health, quality of life and economy is disproportionately borne by low and middle income countries (LMICs). The talk will summarize what we know today to move the needle on air quality actions in LMICs from “knowing what to do” to “doing what we know”.

ABOUT THE WEBINAR SERIES

The 6 part webinar series on Air Quality, Climate and Health is hosted by the National Committee & Future Earth South Asia and will be delivered by an eminent panel of global environmental health researchers.

October 6th, 2025
15:00 – 17:00 (IST)

Venue: Microsoft Teams
Language: English

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SPEAKERS



Dr. Kalpana Balakrishnan

Professor. Kalpana Balakrishnan serves as Dean (Research) and Director of the WHO Collaborating Center for Research and Training in Occupational and Environmental Health at Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research in Chennai, India. She is a leading global environmental health researcher with extensive experience in examining health impacts of air pollution on rural and urban populations. She also serves in multiple national and global technical committees for addressing Climate, Health and Energy risks in developing countries.



Dr. Sagnik Dey

Prof. Sagnik Dey serves as Vipul and Mahesh Chaturvedi Chair Professor in Policy Studies and Heads the Centre for Atmospheric Sciences, IIT Delhi, India. He is Adjunct Professor at the Department of Health, Policy and Management, Korea University, Seoul, South Korea. His research interest is focused on understanding the air pollution-climate nexus and how that nexus impacts human health.



Dr. Pallavi Pant

Dr. Pallavi Pant is an environmental health scientist whose work focuses on the health impacts of air pollution, especially in low- and middle-income countries. As Head of Global Initiatives at the Health Effects Institute (HEI), she leads efforts to strengthen local evidence, strengthen capacity, and raise public awareness around air quality and health. She serves on the editorial boards of Air Quality, Atmosphere & Health and PLOS Global Public Health, chairs the Governing Board of OpenAQ, and advises international initiatives through the World Health Organization and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition.