



Adapting Health Systems to Protect Children from the Impact of Climate Change Series

Session 9: How Early Warning Systems Can Improve Climate- Responsive Healthcare Approaches

October 13, 2023



Hosted by:

Re-imagining the Package of Care for Children Subgroup

Moderated by:

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Sita Strother, sita_strother@jsi.com

Overview

TODAY: Session 9: Early Warning Systems (EWS) — October 13, 2023

Development and use of early warning systems to help governments, communities, and healthcare systems to take proactive measures

- How EWS can be transformed into practical healthcare notifications and adaptations?
- How the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) in India developed and instituted early warning systems regarding extreme heat: what the process involves, challenges to consider, and successes to share.

Presenters



Kaushik Sarkar
Inaugural Director,
Institute for Health Modeling
and Climate Solutions



Abhiyant Tiwari
Lead Health & Climate Resilience,
Natural Resources Defense Council
(NRDC) India

- Q&A

Series Summary

Session 1: Framed the series (November 10, 2022)

- Shared the Healthy Environments for Healthy Children (HEHC) Framework and highlights from UNICEF's heatwaves report

Session 2: Children's Climate Risk Index (CCRI) (December 13, 2022)

- Reviewed the CCRI methodology and its potential application

Session 3: The Impact of Climate Change on Newborn Health Outcomes: A Focus on Congenital Heart Defects (February 13, 2023)

- Review extreme heat and its contributions to congenital heart disease (CHD)

Session 4: Protecting Children and Pregnant People from Heat Stress (March 29, 2023)

- Possible interventions and recommendations

Session 5: Climate Effects on Malaria Programming for Children

- Summary of the evidence of changing temperature and climate conditions and effects on malaria-specific vectors and strategies for malaria surveillance and possible interventions and recommendations

Session 6: Climate Effects on Arboviruses and Child Health (June 15, 2023)

- Overview of arboviruses (e.g. dengue, chikungunya and Zika) and their effects on child and maternal health, how they are being affected by climate change, and recommendations for a primary healthcare response.

Session 7: Financing Health and Climate Adaptation (July 13, 2023)

- Summary of mainstreaming climate adaptation planning and funding opportunities for climate and health activities

Session 8: Communicating Health Effects of Climate Change (August 22, 2023)

- Effective climate messaging and methods of community engagement in climate action

Session 9: Early Warning Systems (October 13, 2023)

- Development and use of early warning systems to help governments, communities, and healthcare systems to take proactive measures

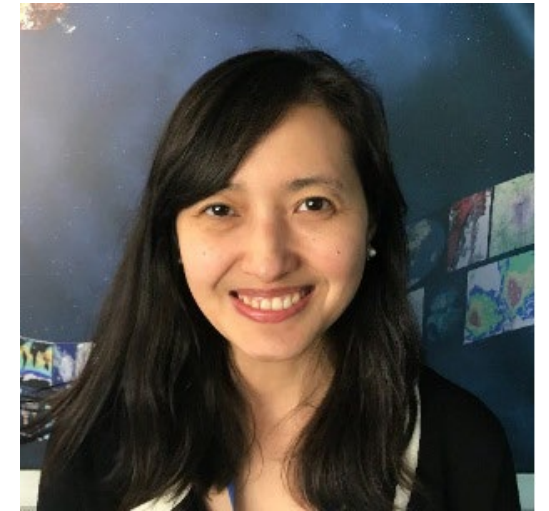


Series Speakers and Moderators





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Participation

- 9 unique sessions
- 2473 people registered to attend the first 8 webinars; 114 people attended each session on average
- 906 people from 116 different countries participated
- 25 experts came and presented and shared key resources

Healthy Environments for Healthy Children Framework

1

Pollution and health

2

Climate adaptation for health

3

Climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable healthcare facilities



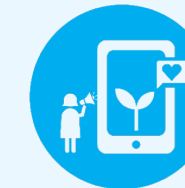
Strengthen climate-resilience and environmental sustainability in healthcare facilities



Develop responsive primary health care



Embed environmental health in school programmes

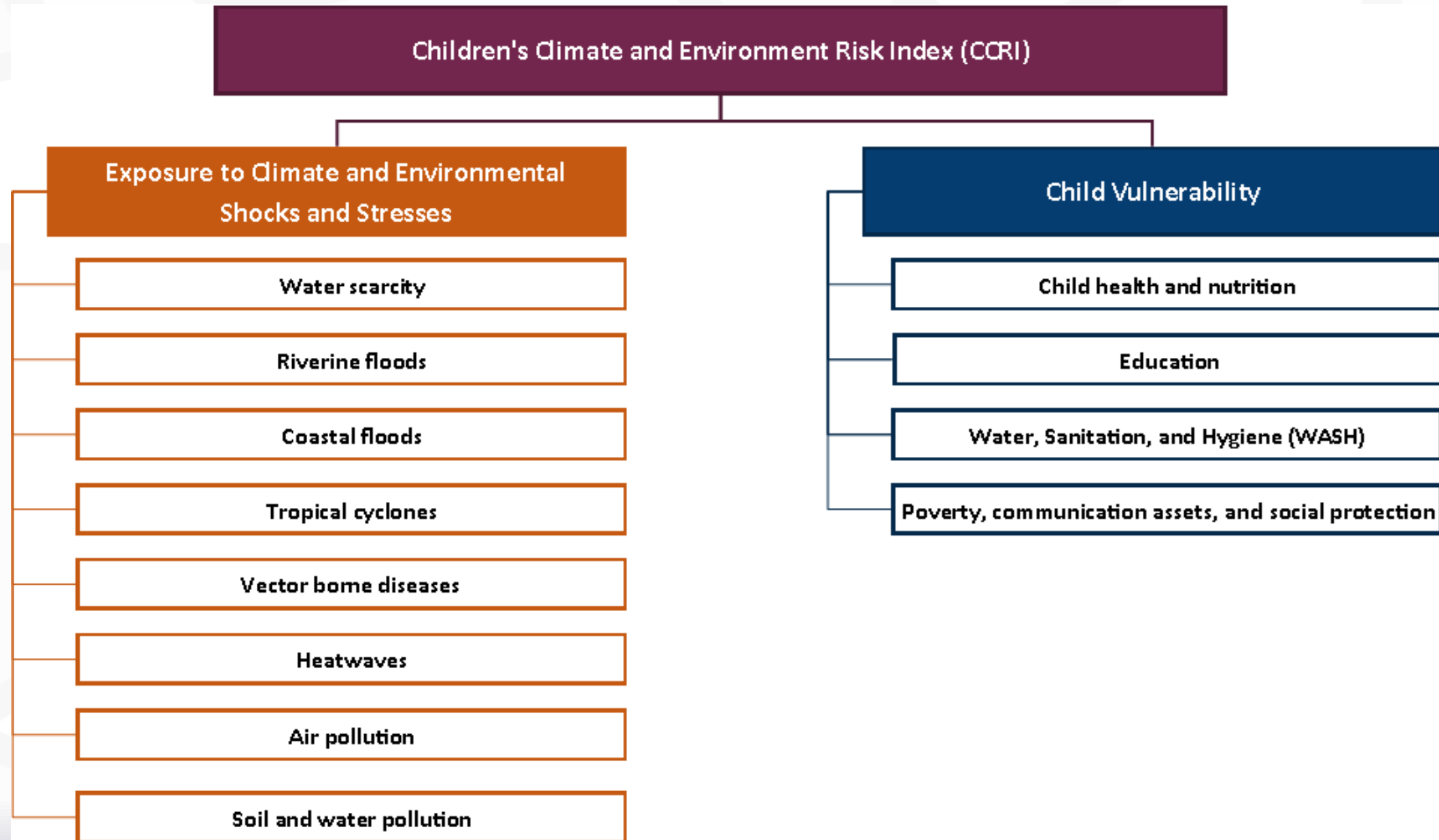


Promote climate and environmental action with children, adolescents and young people

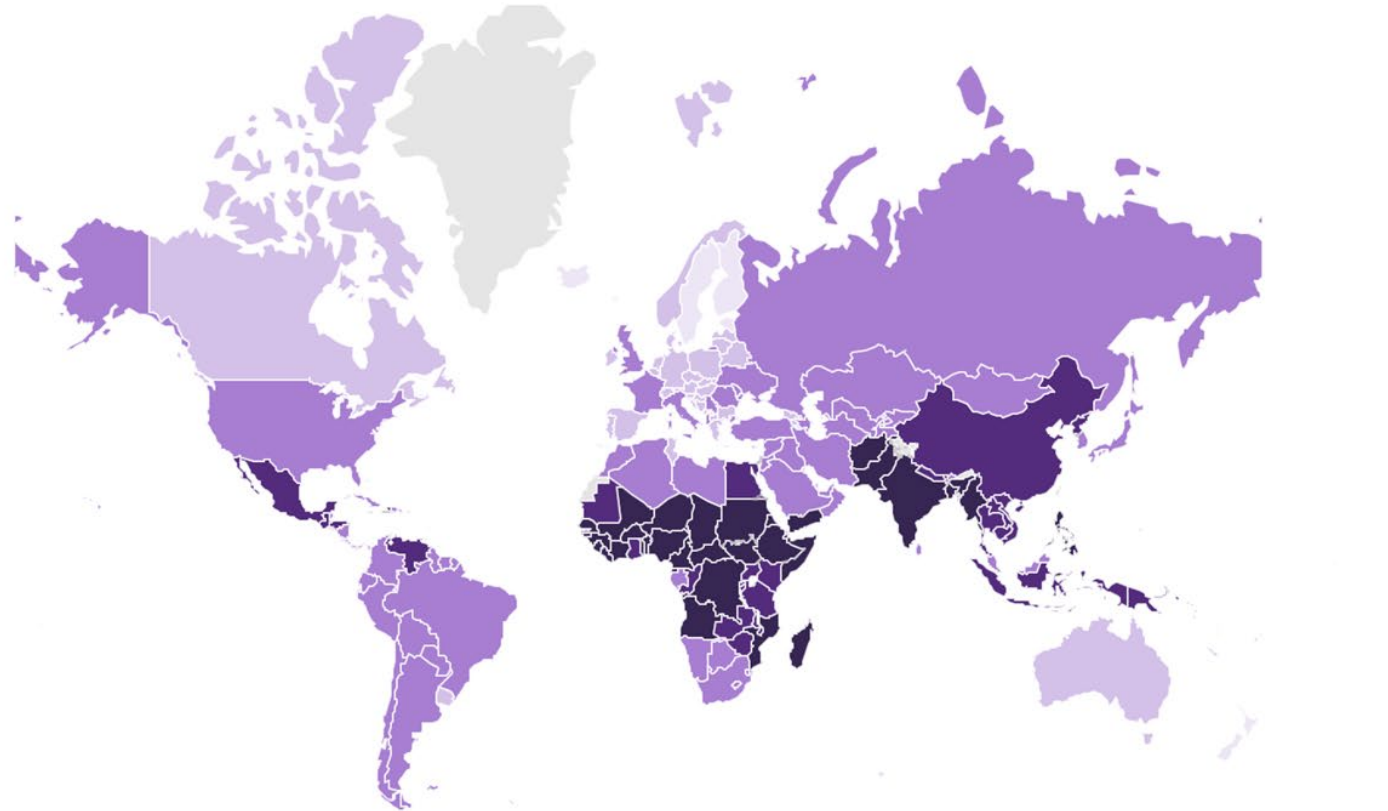


Mobilize collective action

**CCRI conceptual
model:
Pillars and
components**



Approximately **1 billion children** (nearly half of the world's children) live in extremely high-risk countries



Extremely High
 High
 Medium-High
 Low-Medium
 Low
 No data

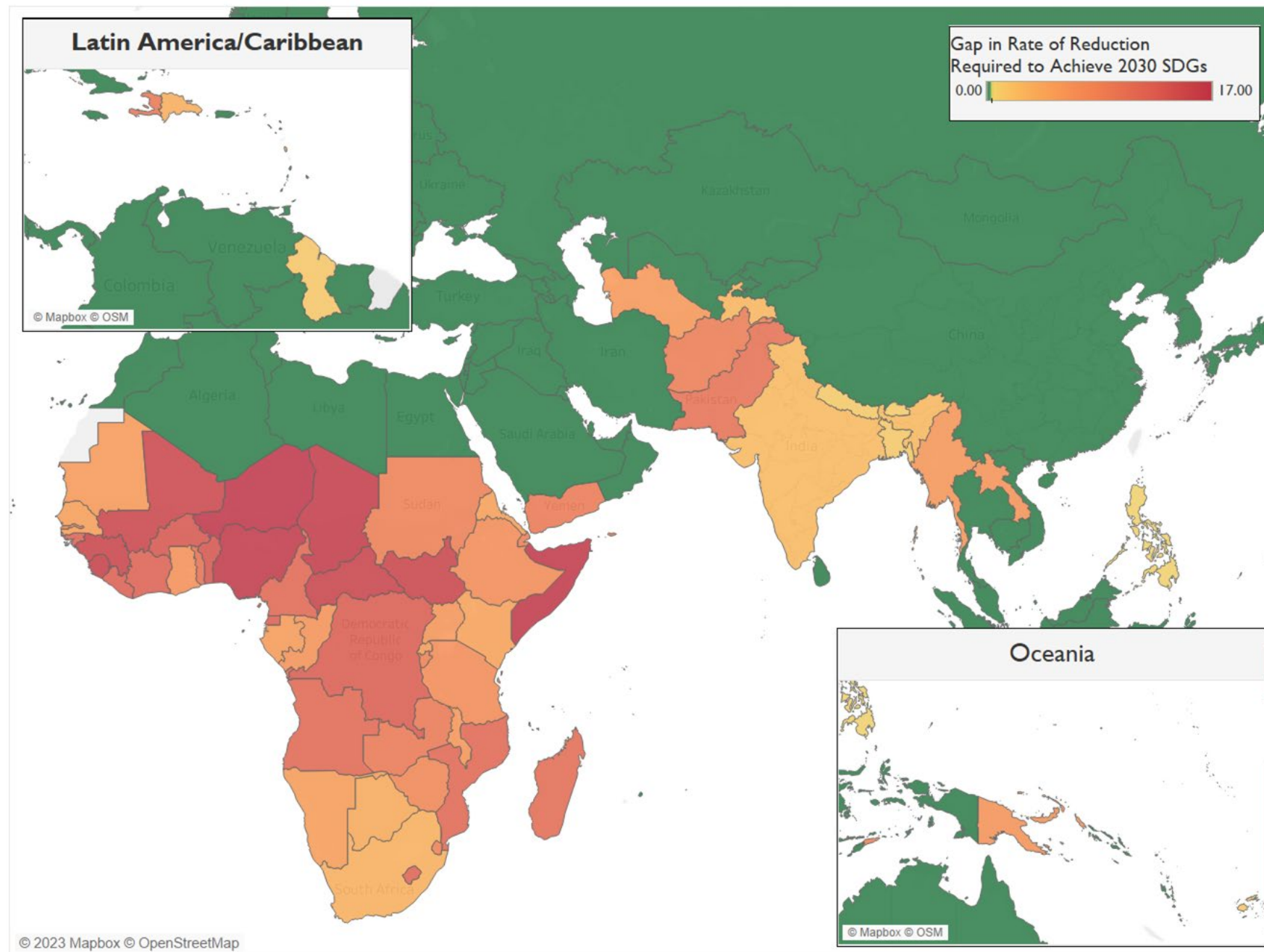
This map does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country or territory or the delimitation of any frontiers.

Note: The CCRI is composed of many indicators across climate and environmental hazards, shocks and stresses, as well as child vulnerability.

Source: UNICEF (2021), The Climate Crisis is a Child Rights Crisis: Introducing the Children's Climate Risk Index

Child Survival Action

54 countries need accelerated action to meet the SDG target for under-five mortality.



Collection of resources can be found on our events page

Resource Pack for Protecting Children from Heat Stress

The panelists of the heat stress webinars and the facilitators together developed a short but helpful list of key selected resources as part of a [Heat Stress Resource Pack](#) that can help you quickly read up on the impact of heat stress on maternal, infant, and child populations and also see examples of plans and guidelines currently being implemented in healthcare settings across countries.



[Resource Pack for Protecting Children from Heat Stress](#)

CHTF Events page:

<https://www.childhealthtaskforce.org/events/2022/11/adapting-health-systems-protect-children-impact-climate-change-series>

Feedback and next steps

- Have you participated in any of the climate change and child health webinars?
- What topics are most important to you?
- Share your experiences with climate change and changing trends in morbidity and mortality. Can you share any lessons learned?
- What else can the CHTF do to address this topic?



Climate Change and Child Health Discussion Series



Engage with the moderators:

- Cara Endyke Doran:
cendykedoran@globalcommunities.org
- Swathi Manchikanti:
smanchikanti@unicef.org

Reach out to the Child Health Task Force
Secretariate:

childhealthtaskforce@jsi.com

Subgroup information, recordings and presentations from previous webinars are available on the subgroup page of the Child Health Task Force website:

www.childhealthtaskforce.org/subgroups/expansion

Healthy Environment Healthy Children Framework:

<https://www.unicef.org/media/91631/file/Healthy-Environments-for-Healthy-Children-Global-Programme-Framework-Summary.pdf>

CCRI:

<https://www.unicef.org/reports/climate-crisis-child-rights-crisis>



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