



CHANCE Conference Report

Advancing African Climate Change & Health
Policies and Financing

Tshwane, South Africa
23-24 June 2022

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Event summary

Title of the conference: Advancing African Climate Change & Health Policies and Financing

Date: 23-24 June 2022

Number of days: 2

Location: Fire and Ice Hotel, Menlyn, Tshwane, South Africa

Organisers: CHANCE Steering Committee

Funding support: ENBEL Horizons 2020

Technical service support: Uncapped Media

Objectives:

1. To inform researchers, policy makers, and other stakeholders about the status, challenges, and opportunities in climate financing in health in Africa
2. To brainstorm ideas to tackle climate financing challenges and to access funding opportunities
3. To create an environment for researchers, policy makers and other stakeholder in climate change and health in Africa to network and form collaborate
4. To better understand opportunities for CHANCE network

Attendance

	Day 1	Day 2
In-person attendees	55	48
Online attendees	77	50

Event photos: <https://chanceconference.online/gallery>

Conference recordings: <https://chanceconference.online/recordings>

Social media report summary

Facebook:

11 main Wits RHI story shares

6 story reshares

Twitter:

22 main Wits RHI tweets

7 story retweets

Day 1 reflections

(Rapporteur - Vincent Pagiwa)

On day one we had high level speakers presenting on different issues on climate change and health in the African continent, and several challenges and potential solutions were raised.

That started with Dr Sandile Buthelezi from the South African Department of Health acknowledging the adverse impacts of climate change and referring to the recent KZN floods. He suggested sustainable interventions are needed to mitigate the impact of climate change on health such as sharing of knowledge and resources and collaboration among stakeholders such as Ministries affected by climate change, and collaboration between the department and WHO. One of the achievements he noted was the finalization of the National Adaptation plan and the release of the Heat-Health guideline which its copies were made available to policy makers present at the CHANCE conference.

Dr Owen Kaluwa represented WHO AFRO director Dr, Matshidiso Moeti. In her speech. Dr. Moeti acknowledged the climate change health impact and the increasing number of fatalities due to climate change adverse effects. She mentioned the CHANCE conference was timely, and indeed it is a chance to bring stakeholders to develop synergies and ideas together. He mentioned WHO's objective of building resilient health systems, which is also signed under CP26. The WHO AFRO director looked forward the outcomes of the CHANCE conference as she believed the conference would yield solutions and climate change messages that would bring behaviour change.

The honourable Minister Barbara Creecy shared on climate change politics. She reflected on the current and future trends on the rising temperatures, acknowledging that the world temperatures increased by 1.1 degrees Celsius and Sub-Saharan Africa expected to double. This will have a negative impact of tourism, built environment and other sectors such a health. She mentioned some solutions adopted by the SA government which other countries can also benchmark; - Presidential commission on climate change – climate justice, Regulations on issues like mitigation and adaptation, and most importantly financing which actually seen to be unfairly distributed to Africa, while not contributing much to carbon emissions compared to the developing world.

Prof Valodia from Wits University and Ms Kuhl from Global climate and health alliance also encouraged collaborative responsibility to tackle climate change as a solution. Wits University are working on climate change and inequalities while the Global climate and health alliance are looking at solution to minimize health effects of climate change and maximising the health benefits of climate mitigation and adaptation.

After tea break we had Prof Cisse presenting on Technical updates on IPCC report on climate change and health in Africa, Mr Ramathuba introducing the department of health's climate change guidelines and approach to climate financing and Dr Guy Mbayo on WHO approach to climate change and health in Africa

One common noticeable take home message from the presentation was that there are feasible and effective adaptation options such as building climate resilience in health systems to protect and promote human health and well-being. This could be done through conducting vulnerability assessments, increasing financing of climate change and health and strengthening the 6 building blocks of health systems as according to the HWO framework.

We further had another interesting session on securing research funding and climate financing for health sector adaptation in Africa. The depressing part was the fact that within the A-Z list of sectors, Health is neglected across all climate funding streams, and even when funded, funding usually goes to migration rather than adaptive strategies, in addition funding can be approved but not disbursed. However, they were promising funding options, some with revised application requirements to allow for more projects applications. The conclusion of this session emphasised it is time for Africa, and African based researchers should be encouraged to lead projects.

The most limiting factor for all session was time. We could not come up with a thorough analysis of high-level conclusions since there were limited dialogues or Q&A discussions in between sessions, and we hope to correct that in the next coming meetings.

Day 2 reflections

(Rapporteur – Caroline Muthoni)

The second day of the conference began with opening and welcome remarks from Prof Britt Nakstad. She invited all the members to contribute towards the CHANCE activities including attending the bimonthly webinars and the next conference in Botswana.

Dr Vincent Pagiwa gave a detailed summary of Day 1 activities.

Prof Yogan Pillay lead a discussion on Climate Financing and Policy Development. All members were divided into eight groups to discuss barriers and solutions in relation to climate financing and climate policy.

Some of the outputs from the discussions as presented by the members included;

<i>Climate financing</i>	<i>Climate policy</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is inadequate awareness on climate change and health at national, regional, local and community level 2. Funds for climate and health are held by one department hence limited access 3. Competing priorities in terms of funding. Other basic needs like access to health care get more focus 4. Having a road-map on climate change and health action for African countries can be used to guide countries 5. Limited knowledge among stakeholders on how to access funding 6. Difficult systems to access funding on climate change often with complicated templates or processes 7. Limited knowledge on how to appropriately and effectively utilize the funding given to address climate change and health gaps 8. There is need to adopt a preventative approach. Money is only mobilized when the crisis is happening e.g., drought, flooding 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Connect scientists with policy makers to allow research translation to policy by providing evidence. This could be officiated by using MoUs 2. Existing guidelines to be made more accessible and actionable e.g., by translating them and using local leaders to disseminate 3. Gaps exist between country level progress on climate action. The countries ahead should provide lessons for those who have not advanced 4. Funding is a challenge when implementing policy 5. More collaboration is needed among government ministries and stakeholders to streamline policy 6. Funding is a contributor to implementing national policies. Without resources the policies cannot be implemented 7. Government ministries and other sectors work in siloes. There is need for collaboration to streamline existing and upcoming policies 8. Funding was diverted to COVID-19 hence slowed progress done on climate change 9. Countries rarely have baselines/adaptation plans to inform financing

The members also presented on how CHANCE can address the challenges raised on climate financing and policy. The groups suggested that CHANCE could;

1. Create a platform for African countries to come report their progress. Here, African countries could upload all their progress documents on climate change and health in addition to other linkages e.g., environment, energy etc.
2. Develop an online library of climate change and health resources
3. Build a database of all the expertise in the network so that members could access technical support from other members
4. Educate or raise awareness among high level officials who are the key decision-makers so that they prioritize climate change and health
5. Collaborate with CLIM-HEALTH to provide members access to WHO guidelines
6. Be a bridge between funders and implementers. This can be done by populating funding calls and sending them to members. Additionally, the network could connect those with the funds to those who can implement the work
7. Develop policy briefs that are easily understandable by policy makers
8. Create a forum where health departments across countries could share best practices
9. Apply for a pilot fund to implement climate change and health action regionally
10. Assess country systems to identify gaps, what makes things work and barriers to getting things done

Assist countries in the CHANCE network to develop adaptation plans or do baseline assessments to identify gaps that need addressing

Reflections on Day 2, high level conclusions

Ms Caroline Muthoni encouraged the members continue the conversation that began the previous day on how to contribute towards the network and how to best advance with the network activities.

Contributions by members on areas where CHANCE could focus its activities included;

Governance structure

- Governance structure: can we have clear guidelines for membership requirements, governance, funding, network host institution and process of upscaling.

Capacity development

- Promote Capacity development on Climate and Health in member countries
- Assist countries raise the health NDCs for the 2025 submission period
- Determine the capacity in countries to address climate change and health effectively. The countries that have advanced progress could assist the countries that are at lower levels of action
- Connect interested researchers with scholarship opportunities to study climate related sciences at graduate and post-graduate level

Collaboration

- The network should adopt a consortium approach and lead an exercise with members to map out climate change and health priority themes, build capacities within these small groups then get funding based on the mapped themes
- Support WHO by bringing stakeholders and climate financiers in one forum to create synergies among these two groups
- Facilitate discussion groups on specific topics, acknowledging priorities and knowledge of members.
- Having a conversation across siloes on country level: what tools and approaches are used in countries (considering new and existing tools e.g., HNAPs, vulnerability assessments, SANA reports)
- Research and innovation priority identification e.g., cooling systems or early warning systems

Finance

- Support proposal writing processes and access to finance
- Foster global connection to networks – and be clear how they can connect to CHANCE
- Make the Climate and Health case – facilitating easier access to finance

Caroline also invited organizations to state how they could support the network. Contributions included:

- The Planetary Health Alliance member working on climate change and health education offered to support the network if they have education activities
- GCHA member offered to connect African Researchers to the Lancet Countdown. She added that the GCHA network could also plug with the members doing work in their countries
- UNEP is hosting a meeting in Dakar from 12-16 September and one member invited CHANCE to organize a side-event and build the network

Prof Britt Nakstad closed the meeting by thanking everyone present and all those who had contributed to the huge success of the Conference.

Suggested actions for the CHANCE network

1. Training on how to apply for research funds
2. Change to provide information on how to access funds (complicated process of accessing funds)
3. Apply for funding through CHANCE
4. CHANCE mobilizing members to write grant applications
5. CHANCE to lobby for funding inclusion
6. Convergence of thought, learning from the COVID-19 epidemic
7. Convergence of thought, working together to identify evidence gaps
8. Database of expertise within CHANCE, who can be consulted for proposal writing
 - a. network expertise- how best to access experts, how to make best use of professionals in network?
9. Report or research archive for access by policy makers to translate research into policy
10. Provide information how CHANCE operates (institutional arrangements)
11. Climate justice- lobby on some issues of concern for members
12. Policy - network can be way for (researchers) to access policy makers
13. Climate change inclusions- help with national plans

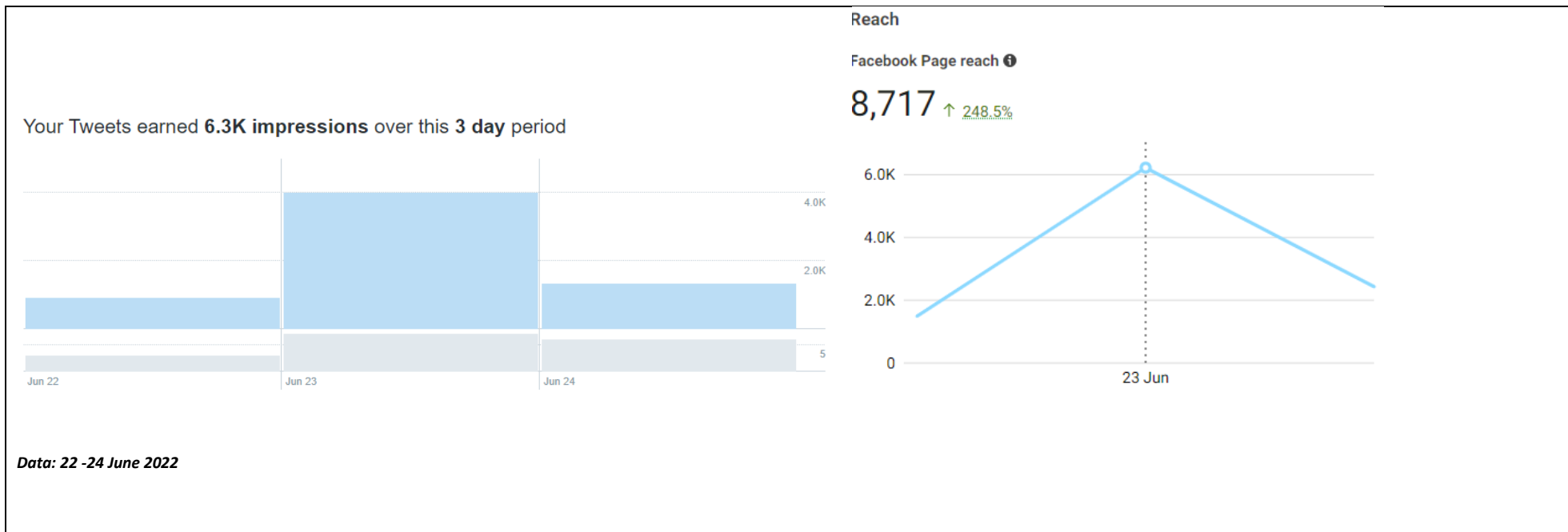
Social media report






Media Analytics Report for the Chance Network Conference: @WitsRHI (Twitter and Facebook)



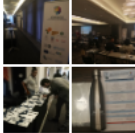

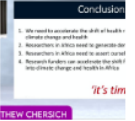







**Impressions: Times people saw this tweet

**Engagements: Times people interacted to this tweet



Date of Posting	Platform	Reach	Post
7 June 2022	Twitter	Impressions 263 Total engagements 19	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI The Wits RHI Climate and Health Directorate is pleased to announce the upcoming Climate Health Africa Network for Collaboration and Engagement (CHANCE) network conference to be held virtually and at the Protea Fire and Ice Hotel, Menlyn, Tshwane from 23 – 24 June 2022. pic.twitter.com/T8gfRLOyU7</p>
15 June 2022	Twitter	Impressions 126 Total engagements 11	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI The Wits RHI Climate and Health Directorate is pleased to announce the upcoming Climate Health Africa Network for Collaboration and Engagement (CHANCE) Network Conference. Click the link to view the conference programme and registration details: https://cutt.ly/6J86ZwF pic.twitter.com/YrR7WCUGiN</p>
20 June 2022	Twitter	Impressions 336 Total engagements 14	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI The count down has began and we are days away from #CHANCE2022. Click the link to view the conference programme: https://cutt.ly/6J86ZwF pic.twitter.com/sTW1eAS3Pm</p>
20 June 2022	Twitter	Impressions 73 Total engagements 3	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI Have a look at the #CHANCE2022 conference programme!! Click the link to view the conference programme and register: https://cutt.ly/6J86ZwF pic.twitter.com/hgBuWlOM6E</p>
22 June 2022	Twitter	Impressions 61	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI Just a day till we kick off at the #CHANCE2022 meeting. Click the link to view the conference programme and register: https://cutt.ly/6J86ZwF pic.twitter.com/OjvrX2Zpq7</p>

23 June 2022	Twitter	Impressions 1,440 Total engagements 24	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI 1/2 The day has finally arrived as we kick off with the #CHANCE2022 Conference this morning. Click the link to view the conference programme and register: https://cutt.ly/6J86ZwF pic.twitter.com/qw98UGz0Dn</p>
23 June 2022	Facebook	Performance <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div data-bbox="421 432 712 587"> <p>Reach</p> <p>Total 5,751</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post reached more people than 98% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="734 432 1025 587"> <p>Reactions, comments and shares</p> <p>Total 12</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post received more reactions, comments and shares than 72% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1048 432 1252 587"> <p>Results</p> <p>Total 36</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post received more link clicks than 76% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> </div>	 <p>The day has finally arrived as we kick off with the #CHANCE2022 Conference this... 23 June 2022 at 08:31 ID: 5768843756477714</p>
23 June 2022	Twitter	Impressions 362 Total engagements 5	<p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI 2/2 Attending the #CHANCE2022 conference or a networking session, use the #CHANCE2022Networking to share your thoughts, and key messages and connect with others!</p>
23 June 2022	Facebook	Performance <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div data-bbox="421 751 712 906"> <p>Reach</p> <p>Total 503</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post reached more people than 18% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="734 751 1025 906"> <p>Reactions, comments and shares</p> <p>Total 12</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post received more reactions, comments and shares than 72% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1048 751 1252 906"> <p>Results</p> <p>Total 13</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post received more link clicks than 44% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> </div>	<p>Dr Gloria Maimela addressing and welcoming delegates to #CHANCE 23 June 2022 at 11:10</p>
23 June 2022	Twitter	Impressions 458 Total engagements 33	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI #CHANCE2022 has officially started!! pic.twitter.com/DEGXHewY1J</p>
23 June 2022	Twitter	Impressions 176 Total engagements 17	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI Dr Guy Mbayo says Climate change is here and its here to stay. #CHANCE2022 #CHANCE2022networking pic.twitter.com/TUcbiRo9W3</p>
23 June 2022	Twitter	Impressions 314 Total engagements 20	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI Prof Matthew Chersich with his closing remarks on securing research funding and climate financing for health sector adaptation in african#CHANCE2022 pic.twitter.com/f7jbtktXU3</p>

23 June 2022	Facebook	<p>Performance</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Reach</p> <p>Total: 869</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post reached more people than 47% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Reactions, comments and shares</p> <p>Total: 6</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post received more reactions, comments and shares than 48% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Results</p> <p>Total: 31</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post received more link clicks than 68% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> </div>	<p>Highlights from session 1. #CHANCE2022 23 June 2022 at 11:18</p>
23 June 2022	Facebook	<p>Performance</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Reach</p> <p>Total: 634</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post reached more people than 35% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Reactions, comments and shares</p> <p>Total: 9</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post received more reactions, comments and shares than 62% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Results</p> <p>Total: 16</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post received more link clicks than 56% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> </div>	 <p>As African countries, we are disproportionately affected by climate change and it... 23 June 2022 at 15:54 ID: 5769769836385106</p>
24 June 2022	Twitter	<p>Impressions: 143</p> <p>Total engagements: 8</p>	<p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI · Jun 24 Start of Day 2@! #CHANCE2022. We have Vincent Pagiwa reflecting on the incredible speakers, reflections and lessons learnt from Day 1 pic.twitter.com/AJQd6iQQu7</p>
24 June 2022	Twitter	<p>Impressions: 176</p> <p>Total engagements: 13</p>	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI The conference attendees have broken out into small groups to discuss the policy and finance challenges that countries experience in addressing climate change impacts. #CHANCE2022 #CHANCE2022networking pic.twitter.com/NOjtb6TCt2</p>
24 June 2022	Twitter	<p>Impressions: 192</p> <p>Total engagements: 10</p>	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI #CHANCE2022 Prof Yogan Pillay facilitates the feedback session with in person and online attendees. pic.twitter.com/8dYkKF6tsL</p>
24 June 2022	Twitter	<p>Impressions: 267</p> <p>Total engagements: 70</p>	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI Some Day 2 #CHANCE2022 highlights pic.twitter.com/PlwCF3TUFx</p>
24 June 2022	Twitter	<p>Impressions: 98</p> <p>Total engagements: 7</p>	 <p>Wits RHI @WitsRHI Dr Gloria is taking us through a framework on designing adaptation interventions in climate change and health. We are discussing African adaptation interventions. pic.twitter.com/2jHkwiS8yH</p>

<p>24 June 2022</p>	<p>Facebook</p>	<p>Performance</p> <div data-bbox="421 240 667 371"> <p>Reach</p> <p>Total 1,539</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post reached more people than 80% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="689 240 936 371"> <p>Reactions, comments and shares</p> <p>Total 12</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post received more reactions, comments and shares than 72% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="958 240 1205 371"> <p>Results</p> <p>Total 153</p> <p>Worst Best</p> <p>This post received more link clicks than 92% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.</p> </div>
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