



Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER)

EU Health Policy Platform Thematic Network Summary Proposal  
to Build Capacity and Upskill the Public Health Workforce  
in Climate Change and Health and One Health

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The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) proposes a thematic Network under the first category from the call on Climate change and health: building health system capacity.

ASPHER would build on the previous work of the ASPHER 2021 Thematic Network for Climate Change and Health Education to focus the scope of this thematic network on capacity building and upskilling public health professionals in the areas of climate change and health and One health.

This thematic network proposal is a natural progression of the ongoing work of ASPHER since the 2021 Network Joint Statement [‘Moving towards the right to ‘health for all’ by training the public health and wider health workforce on climate change and health’](#), which has seen the Association establish an active [Working Group on Climate Change and Health](#), gain official NGO Observer status to COP, forge a [partnership with the European Climate and Health Observatory](#), strengthen work as a [member of the Global Consortium on Climate Change and Health Education](#) (GCCHE), and serve on the advisory committee of the [BeWell project](#) to upskill Health Workers in Green and Digital Skills. Most recently ASPHER signed a memorandum of understanding with the WHO Regional Office with Europe that includes collaboration on public health capacity building and advocacy with particular emphasis on One Health.

ASPHER in partnership with GCCHE is now wrapping up a 10 week online [European Responders Course in Climate Change and Health](#) aimed at Health and Public Health Professionals. The response to the course far outstripped all expectations with more than 3000 registrations and well over 1000 participants following the sessions every week. The overwhelming response highlights the real need for further training and skills to build capacity on this critical topic. The final course in this series will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> April and ASPHER is already planning for a second edition in 2025 working together with the European Climate and Health Observatory.

Additionally, ASPHER works across its membership network of over 120 schools and institutions involved in public health training in the European Region and beyond. The Association is currently working on a new [core curriculum for public health in Europe](#), which amongst other areas, is integrating Climate Change and One Health into the recommended curriculum offer for our members.

In addition to the partners already mentioned, ASPHER would harness its membership network, and partnership with other EU and global level organisations such as the [European Public Health Association](#) (EUPHA), [European Public Health Alliance](#) (EPHA), [EuroHealthNet](#), [European Health Management Association](#) (EHMA) [International Association of National Public Health Institutes](#) (IANPHI), and [Global Network for Academic Public Health](#) (GNAPH) to participate in developing, drafting and disseminating a Joint Statement in the format of a joint paper on action to be taken to build capacity and upskill the public health workforce in climate change and health and one health.

This proposal is in synergy with ongoing EU actions on skilling and reskilling workers in green skills under the [European Climate Pact](#) and the [European Green Deal](#).

#### Contacts

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