

Thank you for your interest in the ‘Climate Changemakers in Health: From Science to Action’ symposium held on Thursday 11 November!

A large group of global health professionals joined the conversation about how health professionals can make healthcare more sustainable. We also drew attention to the health impacts of climate change. It was an instructive, inspiring afternoon. Speakers from all over the world, and at all stages of their careers, shared their expertise and experience. Thanks to everyone who joined in by asking questions, sharing insights, and giving tips for further reading through the chat function. Together, we made it a hopeful event, with plenty of ways to get involved in our daily (working) lives. As global health professionals, we can and want to make a difference and accelerate the transition to sustainable care, in the Netherlands and beyond.

We’ve listed the different program components of the symposium in this email, with links to the sessions that can be viewed online. See below for the list. We’ve also included a number of tips from the chat. Our own tip is to keep your eye on the [NVTG website](#). We will be publishing a special symposium issue of *Medicus Tropicus Bulletin* (MTb), the NVTG’s English-language journal. Read it on the site or download it as a PDF. Join [MTb on LinkedIn](#) to receive a notification when the issue comes out.

Looking ahead

Please let us know what participation in the symposium has brought you. To reflect on this, you may find the following questions helpful:

- What surprised you?
- What knowledge did you take away?
- Could you use it as a source of inspiration for others, e.g., colleagues or fellow students who were not there on 11 November?

Please share your thoughts on these questions with us by email: info@kcgh.nl. We could even play a role in taking your thoughts a step further, e.g., sharing a vlog, blog, or article by you, or organizing a work session to help you develop your insights and consider possible next steps. Do you have any ideas about this? Feel free to contact KCGH.

March 2022: Dutch Global Health Film Festival

As announced at the symposium, the next [Dutch Global Health Film Festival](#) takes place in March 2022. We’ll be screening global health films over several evenings. Each screening is followed by an interactive after talk. Highly recommended! Follow us on social media to get the latest information.

Have you joined the NVTG yet?

The NVTG, the main organizer of the symposium, is the Dutch professional association for global health professionals. Membership of the NVTG allows you to gain knowledge and inspiration, meet like-minded people, build your global health career, and stay informed about current global health themes. Your membership also helps to ensure that the voice of global health professionals is heard in the public arena. Go to [NVTG.org to find out more or to become a member](#).

[Netherlands Society for Tropical Medicine and International Health](#) (NVTG)

[Kennis Connectors Global Health](#) (KCGH)

[Zorg voor Klimaat](#) (Dutch Climate and Health Network)

[Uniting Streams](#)

[Society for Global Health and Tropical Medicine residents](#) (TROIE)

Symposium Climate Changemakers in Health | From Science to Action

[Welcome and keynotes 1 and 2:](#)

- **Introduction** by the chair of the day, Ellen Mangnus, Sociology lecturer at Wageningen.
- **Welcome** by Sofie Jacobse and Inge Schepens of the NVTG working party Zorg voor Klimaat.
- **Are we ready to build health systems that consider the climate?**
Keynote 1 by Renzo R. Guinto, MD DrPH, associate professor and inaugural director, Planetary and Global Health Program, St. Luke's Medical Center College of Medicine, Philippines, and chief planetary health scientist, Sunway Centre for Planetary Health, Malaysia.
- **Communicating the impacts of climate change through art and dance.**
Keynote 2 by Melvine Anyango Otieno, PHA Next Generation fellow, University of Eldoret, Kenya, Planetary Health Alliance.

Additional information shared during this program component:

- Shared by Melvine: [Communicating the Impacts of Climate Change through Art and Dance - 2021 PHAM Festival Event](#).

Break-out session 1 [Climate changemakers in the consultation room – best clinical practices:](#)

- Session moderator: Anouk van der Schot of the Groene Zorg Alliantie.
- **The future is green** by Myrtle van der Wel, member of [De Jonge Specialist](#). This organization has created new guidelines for doctors (in training) who aim to make healthcare more sustainable: [Green, greener, greenest](#) (in Dutch: *Groen, groener, groenst*).
- **Sustainable healthcare in primary care** by Iris Wichers, general practitioner and member of the [NHG](#). The NHG recently released an eBook on sustainable healthcare, entitled [The Green General Practice](#) (*De groene huisartsenpraktijk*).

Break-out session 2 [Climate changemakers in the research field:](#)

- Session moderator: Eugenia Di Meo of NVTG working party Uniting Streams.
- **Air pollution in a global context** by George Downward, assistant professor at UMC Utrecht with a focus on health risk assessment and disease prevention.

- **The impact of healthcare on air quality/pollution** by Evelyn Brakema, trainee GP and senior researcher at LUMC. Evelyn also presented a research project on the use of more sustainable asthma inhalators.

Break-out session 3 [Climate changemakers in society/public debate](#):

- Session moderator: Hanna Hazenberg of KIT and Into the World.
- **Introduction to sustainable finance** by Julia van Boven, Sustainability Consultant at ABN AMRO.
- The three dimensions to **Connecting to the Climate Crisis** by Lena Hartog, who was selected as one of the Sustainable Young 100 professionals.
- **How to persuade your audience during public debate** by Koen Gorgels, board member of [Dokters in Debat](#).

Additional information shared during this program component:

- [Green Pension](#) (*Groen Pensioen*), a Dutch divestment campaign for health workers intended to make your money help solve the climate crisis.
- www.slowfashion.global/movement
- www.activehope.info
- *The case for degrowth* by Giorgos Kallis, Susan Paulson, Giacomo d'Alisa, and Federico Demaria (2020).

[Plenary reflection](#) following the break-out sessions:

- Session moderator: Ellen Mangnus.
- Speakers: the break-out sessions' moderators – Anouk van der Schot, Eugenia Di Meo, and Hanna Hazenberg.

[Keynote 3, plenary panel discussion and close](#):

- Session moderator: Ellen Mangnus.
- **Which science for which climate action? Integrating science, community, and culture for climate justice.**
Keynote 3 by Gustavo García-López, assistant researcher, Centre for Social Studies, University of Coimbra, and holder of the Prince Claus Chair, International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam (2019 – 2021), with a focus on sustainable development, inequalities, and environmental justice.
- **Plenary panel discussion with changemakers in health** with Arte Groenewegen, medical student and member of [co2assistant](#); Peter J. Blankestijn, nephrologist and Green Health Care Professional of 2020; Nicole Hunfeld, hospital pharmacist and clinical pharmacologist specialized in intensive care, and project leader of Green Intensive Care; and Esther Putman,

BSc MSc PhD (biology/toxicology), Research and International Affairs coordinator for the Sustainable Health Care Team of the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare, and Sports.

- **Close** by the session moderator, with input from Chiem van Straaten, spoken word artist, and Juliette Mattijssen of IFMSA and Act4health.

Additional information shared during this program component:

- Shared by Gustavo: [Casa Pueblo](#), Puerto Rico – Community Self-Management Organization
- Shared by Peter: [exposome.nl](#) and in the chat: www.uu.nl/organisatie/verdieping/het-exposom-de-grootse-beinvloeder-van-onze-gezondheid-decoderen
- Also shared in the chat: The Dutch [Social Tipping Point Coalition](#); and [six ways to achieve systems change](#).