



## *Newsletter* WONCA Working Party on the Environment

April 2019

Dear Colleagues,

Aiming to improve communications within our working party, and also with other working parties and individuals, we are developing this monthly newsletter. Please send your news/articles and suggestions to [WPEnvironment@wonca.net](mailto:WPEnvironment@wonca.net).

If you are interested in compiling and editing this newsletter please contact me  
Enrique Barros (Chair) [WPEnvironment@wonca.net](mailto:WPEnvironment@wonca.net)

### **[WONCA April Newsletter](#)**

Consider taking a special look at WONCA's President Dr Donald Li article "In my view: Disaster Preparedness and Risk Reduction"

### **WP on the Environment - e-meetings**

We had another important bimonthly e-meeting on April 2nd.  
Please check out [the meeting notes here](#).

### **WP on the Environment - ongoing projects**

Finalizing our updated Vision/Mission

[Make your comments and suggestions here](#)

## Our highlights in WONCA Newsletter

The preferred name was Green WONCA, already approved by Karen, WONCA editor.

[Check out the survey results here.](#)

## Air Health Train the Trainer Program

There were 178 health care practitioners who applied to our program. Applicants came from 52 different countries, with representation from each of the WONCA regions. Fourteen applicants were from high income countries and the rest were from low, low-middle and upper-middle income countries (as grouped by the World Bank).

We were able to accept 62 applicants from LMIC into our program; who will be reimbursed for their activities after training, in educating their colleagues, and advocacy.

We have invited the remainder, including all those from high income countries, to join the training, and to participate as trainers in the same way as the others, but without reimbursement for their time.

Trainers have commenced the online courses and will partake in webinars at the end of April.

## Planetary Health Declaration Project (update by co-Lead Tammra Warby)

On March 1 the PHA Clinicians for Planetary Health group and WONCA Working Party on the environment launched the [“Declaration Calling for the Family Doctors of the World to Act on Planetary Health”](#).

Since then it has been well-received. Engagements thus far include support by certain WONCA MOs such as the College of Family Physicians of Canada, RACGP of Australia and the Caribbean College Family Medicine. Articles have been written in the Brazilian Journal of Family Medicine, BMJ, Canadian medical association journal and Forum magazine for GPs in Ireland. In addition, there are many other media articles that have been published from Washington to Australia. The full list is shown here: [Phase 3 document](#) .

Also contained within this document is further advice (see links under [Suggested email templates for Family Doctors declaration](#)) for how to engage with your organisation about disseminating and supporting the declaration. We are very keen for people to be involved in writing about or bringing attention to the declaration both in the public and organisational arena.

The next phase will also involve building on the declaration such as creating practical tools for family doctors as part of the Clinicians for Planetary Health project. Please contact [dr.twarby@icloud.com](mailto:dr.twarby@icloud.com) for further information.

### **Articles and other news:**

[UN Environment's flagship environmental assessment: The sixth Global Environment Outlook \(GEO-6\)—Healthy Planet, Healthy People—a report adopted by 193 countries in March, 2019](#)

Nature - [Why the US–China trade war spells disaster for the Amazon](#)

BBC - [toxic air in Mongolia](#)

BMJ- [Autism and pesticides](#)

NATURE - [Cuba acknowledges climate change threats in its constitution](#)

SCIENCE - [The crisis of democracy and the science of deliberation](#)

The Guardian- [There is no planet b](#) - climate strikes pictures

<https://thehill.com/opinion/healthcare/434789-human-health-and-planetary-health-are-intertwined>

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/human-health-inextricably-linked-to-our-planets-health/article26612099.ece>

Is gender equity important for natural systems protection?

[This paper finds interesting evidence.](#)

A Nigerian Family Doctor inspiring initiative

<http://ruralhealthsuccess.blogspot.com/2019/04/post-flood-disaster-intervention-to.html>

### **Networking:**

News from our partners in the PHA

[Planetary Health Alliance Newsletter April/2019:](#)

## **Recommended vídeos of the month**

[The New Green Deal](#)

[COSMOS \(remake from Sagan's famous TV series\) - watch the trailer](#)