

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS



Invitation

We invite abstract submissions for oral presentations, posters, and workshops at the **World Public Health Nutrition Congress 2024**, convened by the **World Public Health Nutrition Association** in partnership with the **University of Westminster**.

The Congress will be held in London from Monday 10 June to Thursday 13 June 2024.

Congress Theme

Questioning the Solutions: has the Decade of Nutrition delivered?

In 2016, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) proclaimed 2016 to 2025 the UN Decade of Action on Nutritionⁱ (the Decade), with six broad focus areas to guide member Statesⁱⁱ. The aim of the Decade was to accelerate country implementation of 2014 ICN2 commitments to end hunger and to eliminate malnutrition in all its formsⁱⁱⁱ, to achieve the 2025 global targets for maternal, infant and young child nutrition^{iv} and NCD risk factors^v and to contribute to meeting Sustainable Development Goals by 2030^{vi}.

Today 900 million people go to bed hungry, and 3.1 billion cannot afford a healthy diet. Current dietary trends based on unhealthy and unsustainably produced food will exacerbate health and environmental risks to people and planet^{vii}. Obesity and the global burden of non-communicable diseases is predicted to worsen^{viii} and the effects of food production on greenhouse-gas emissions, biodiversity loss, and water and land use will reduce Earth systems stability^{ix}.

Throughout the Decade, WPHNA have argued for a greater focus on human rights and public interests in the Decade^x, stressing the need for urgent attention to social, economic, political and environmental determinants of nutrition. WPHNA envisions a focus on advancing the rights of the disadvantaged and marginalized groups most affected by malnutrition¹⁸, with human rights providing the best framework for policy coherence and partnerships across the many sectors needing to act to address malnutrition's root causes^{xi}.

The UN Food Systems summit in 2021 ignored public interest CSO inputs and thus failed to adequately recognise the role of local food systems, agroecology, and sovereign food knowledge as a solution to address food security, instead moving towards strengthening the prevailing industrial food system and power of multinational food companies^{xii}.

The World Public Health Nutrition Congress 2024 is being held one year before the end of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition. The Congress will question the current global solutions to addressing malnutrition in all its forms. Ultimately, we will be aiming to ensure that nutrition targets truly become political priorities and that solutions include the voices of the marginalised more than those of the powerful. We will be challenging the increasing voice of corporate actors in planning and policy making in the face of the lack of voice and influence of the populations most effected by increasing food insecurity and related food system challenges such as threats to food sovereignty.



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Congress sub-themes

Sub-themes for the conference are drawn from the six Action Areas for the Decade of Action on Nutrition, to explore how they have been applied in global, regional, national and local initiatives and what lies ahead.

The Congress program will provide opportunities for lively and productive discussions and contributions from across sectors and regions that have realistic potential for action to influence public health nutrition.

We invite abstract submissions related to research, policy or practice under the following Congress sub-themes:

1. Sustainable, resilient food systems supporting health.
2. Health systems delivering optimum nutrition.
3. Social protection to ensure food security for all.
4. Trade and investment for improved nutrition.
5. Safe and supportive environments for nutrition.
6. Strengthened governance and accountability for nutrition.
7. Building capacity for public health nutrition action.

Abstracts that also address the following will be prioritized:

- a. Human rights, citizen engagement, and action for public interest.
- b. Partnerships and alliances that shift power to those most affected.
- c. Cross-sectoral actions free from conflict of interest.
- d. Climate change and planetary boundaries.

Congress objectives

The overall objectives of WPHN Congress 2024 are to:

- Foster an effective interaction between leading activists, academics, researchers, practitioners, policy makers and communities to challenge current solutions to health and nutrition issues.
- Engage academics and policymakers in advancing the rights of disadvantaged and marginalized groups.
- Enable active debates between key policy makers, practitioners, communities and researchers on policies and programmes that are appropriate, effective, and acceptable to those most afflicted.
- Strengthen capacity for action of the public health nutrition workforce through knowledge transfer, skills development, and establishment of action networks and support systems.
- Denounce corporate capture and conflicts of interest in the planning and execution of global public health nutrition policies and solutions, and thus to raise concern about this by global public health nutrition actors.



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Conflict of Interest

All potential speakers will be required to disclose any potential conflicting or competing interest of themselves or co-authors when submitting an abstract to the Congress, and when presenting.

The Congress will not accept abstracts from authors who have ties and alliances with any organisation conceived, founded, funded, led, controlled, or organised by corporations or companies whose products, practices, or policies conflict with public health goals. These organisations include but are not limited to:

- Any **arms or tobacco industry corporation or any representative or associated organisation.**
- Any **conflicted food, drink, or pharmaceutical industry corporation or any representative or associated organisation.**
- Any non-profit or charitable organisation whose governing body has **more than 25 percent** of its members employed by or associated with any corporation or organisation as indicated above.

Potential conflicting or competing interests include:

1. Employment and other relevant paid activities such as consultancy or directorship.
2. Honorary positions or association at any substantial level.
3. Project funding and research grants.
4. Consultancies, grants or honoraria for research, support to attend conferences and meetings, or to cover travel and accommodation.
5. Stocks, donations, gifts, and other benefits that may be relevant.

The general guide is to disclose any interests financial or otherwise that if disclosed by a third party might cause reasonable adverse comments, embarrassment, or other difficulty. If in doubt, please include possible interests. Further guidelines are available in the [WPHNA COI policy](#).

Presentation Types

Oral Presentations

Contributed oral presenters will have a total of 10 minutes (8 minutes for presentation, 2 minutes for questions). The session will have a nominated chair and rapporteur, 6-8 speakers, and a 20-minute period for discussion and recommendations at the end.

Poster Presentations

Designated periods will be allocated in the program when presenters will attend their posters to take questions and discuss their work.



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Workshops

Workshops may be 90 minutes or up to half-day. They should aim to explore and make recommendations on knowledge, policy or action related to an issue relevant to a conference theme OR provide participants with an opportunity to develop a new skill relevant to public health nutrition practice. Interactive formats are mandatory.

Abstract Requirements

Abstract Submission

- All intended presentations require the submission of an abstract in the specified format via the [Cvent abstract submission portal](#). An account must be created before you can submit.
- All abstracts will be subject to peer review.
- Whilst every effort will be made to accept an abstract for the nominated presentation type, the Scientific Committee reserves the right to allocate a different presentation type if appropriate.
- All correspondence will be sent to the person whose name and email address is entered with the abstract.
- Abstracts must be accompanied by a completed Conflict of Interest Declaration as part of the abstract submission form.
- A 150-word author biography and optional profile photo will be required.
- Submissions can be edited up until the submission end date.

Abstract Format

- The abstract title should be no longer than **12 words**. It should be bold, Arial, size 13 font, lower case except for beginning letter of first word and proper nouns.
- Authors should be listed under the title in Arial size 12 font, underlined, with affiliations identified by superscript number and details provided in italics below.
- All abstracts should be a **maximum of 250 words** in Arial, size 11 font, single-spaced simple text paragraphs, with embedded, underlined headings and without images or tables.
- Paragraphs should be left hand justified, with normal margins and have 10 point spacing between.
- **Poster and oral abstracts** should include the following headings: background and aims, description and recommendations, and significance.
- **Workshop abstracts** should identify the aims/learning objectives of the workshop, background, process, and how the workshop findings will be used and disseminated for capacity building.

Abstract submission closes on Monday 20 November 2023, at 11:59pm GMT.

Presentation offers will be advised by 13 December 2023.

Register for the Congress

For further information, please contact wphnc2024@westminster.ac.uk



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ⁱ Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 1 April 2016, 70/259. United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016– 2025). https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/259

ⁱⁱ United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025: Work program. https://www.work_programme_nutrition_decade_en.pdf

ⁱⁱⁱ Second International Conference on Nutrition ICN2. Conference Outcome Document: Framework for Action. <http://www.fao.org/policy-support/tools-and-publications/resources-details/en/c/422096/>

^{iv} World Health Organization. Global targets 2025. To improve maternal, infant and young child nutrition

www.who.int/nutrition/topics/nutrition_globaltargets2025/en

^v Global action plan for the prevention and control of NCDs 2013–2020 <https://apps.who.int/iris/rest/bitstreams/442296/retrieve>

^{vi} Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development <https://sdgs.un.org/publications/transforming-our-world-2030-agenda-sustainable-development-17981>

^{vii} Godfray HCJ, Beddington JR, Crute IR et al. 2010. Food Security: The Challenge of Feeding 9 billion People Science 327 (5967), 812-818. doi:10.1126/science.1185383.

^{viii} Springmann M, Mason-D'Croz D, Robinson S, et al. (2016) Global and regional health effects of future food production under climate change: a modelling study. Lancet 387:1937–46. doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(15)01156-3.

^{ix} Tilman D, Clark M. 2014. Global diets link environmental sustainability and human health. Nature 515:518–22. doi: 10.1038/nature13959.

^x The UN Decade of Nutrition: WPHNA's position at mid-term. World nutrition 2021:12(30):11-24. <https://worldnutritionjournal.org/index.php/wn/article/view/741>

^{xi} Human Rights Council 2017 Report of the Secretary-General on the role of economic, social and cultural rights in building sustainable and resilient societies for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, A/HRC/37/30, 18 December 2017. <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G17/362/96/PDF/G1736296.pdf>

^{xii} de Wit MM, Canfeld M, Iles A, et al. 2021. Editorial: Resetting Power in Global Food Governance: The UN Food Systems Summit. Development, 64:153–161 <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41301-021-00316-x>



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