



## AEF at UNGA79 and the UN Summit of the Future

21-25 September 2024, New York

The 2024 [UN Summit of the Future](#) will take place on 22-23 September in New York during the 79th session of the UN General Assembly. The Summit aims to “harness the power of multilateralism to turbocharge the 2030 agenda” and forge a global consensus on “what our future should look like, and what we can do today to secure it.”

AEF’s engagement will be anchored by its work at the nexus of climate-health and critical financing, as well as supported by a workstream on strategic foresight within Africa-Europe relations.

### Programme

#### Future, Now!

**21 September, 11:00am-12:30pm EST**

As part of the Africa-Europe Foundation’s Partners Initiative Awards Scheme, Alefa Diaspora is hosting a side event to the UN Summit of the Future Action Days between youth and political leaders of OACPS countries on expectations for the UN Summit and the resulting Pact for the Future.

*More info available soon on their [social channels](#).*

#### UN Summit of the Future

**22-23 September, All Day, United Nations Headquarters**

The Africa-Europe Foundation is an accredited observer to the UN Summit of the Future and will be intervening in specific discussions linked with AEF priorities. As a member of the advisory committee of the UN Science Summit, AEF will also take part in dedicated sessions related to financing for development, AI governance and youth.

#### Africa-Europe Women Leaders Network

**23 September, 7:30-9:00am EST, Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN (hybrid, invite-only)**

Co-chaired by Presidents Mary Robinson and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the meeting will set the tone for next steps following the UN Summit of the Future, and the critical role of multilateral trust and finance to reach global goals. Members will discuss actionable recommendations for advancing a holistic approach to climate and health at the UN Climate Change Conference 2024 (COP29) in November and look ahead to key milestones in the 2025 multilateral agenda, from the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Financing for Development to COP30.

*The opening panel will be live-streamed on AEF social channels ([X](#) and [LinkedIn](#)).*

#### Advancing Political Commitments on Climate and Health Financing

**24 September, 17:00 – 18:30 EST, Cure (in-person)**

In partnership with Amref Health Africa and the Pan Africa Climate Justice Alliance, the convening will forge an Africa-Europe political and financial climate-health roadmap, presenting barriers and their concrete solutions, including to the delivery of a robust New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance whereby health is fully integrated, and facilitating preliminary discourse and alignments ahead of COP29, while looking ahead at COP30.

*Register for in-person participation [here](#). Event will be followed by a Networking Cocktail.*

#### From Risk to Resilience: Unlocking Climate Financing for Local Health Adaptation

**25 September, 11:30am – 12:30pm EST, Studio Gather Rockefeller Center (hybrid)**

This strategic dialogue, done in partnership with Foundation S and Foreign Policy, aims to address the impact climate change has on global health and to unlock the financing to better address local health adaptation efforts. The event will also welcome the launch of the Collective Minds Climate x Health Council’s Action Report as a call to action to empower local communities in their adaptation efforts.

*Register for in-person participation or watch online [here](#).*



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### Annex 1: Advancing political commitments on climate and health financing: Where is the Global South Voice?

**Date:** 24 September 2024

**Time:** 5:00pm – 6:30pm EST, followed by Networking Cocktail (doors open at 4:30pm EST)

**Location:** Cure, 345 Park Ave S, New York, NY 10010

**Format:** In person

Mid-way through a global ‘super-year’ of elections and in the context of new institutional and programming cycles for the EU and AU, the United Nations is set to host the Summit of the Future in New York in September 2024. Co-led by Namibia and Germany, the Summit is outlined as “a moment to mend eroded trust and demonstrate that international cooperation can effectively tackle current challenges...” At the heart of these challenges lies the climate-health nexus, elevated at COP28 and most recently at the 77th World Health Assembly in Geneva, where member states adopted a resolution acknowledging insufficient financing as a significant barrier to developing resilient and sustainable health systems.

With countries expected to enhance their next round of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) in 2025, covering the period from 2025-2035, it’s crucial that a ONE health approach is adopted and for countries to secure the technical capacities and financial resources to deliver on commitments. Accessibility, quality, and predictability of climate finance, as well as honouring climate finance commitments, together with innovative finance, will play a critical role in operationalising revised NDCs. It will also contribute to future-proofing, climate-proofing and integrating the development and health agendas.

To this end, and in the lead-up to COP29, going through all the way to Financing for Development Conference in Spain, to the World Social Summit in Qatar till COP30 in Belem, Brazil, the climate-health community calls for an effective, needs-based, accountable, and predictable New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on Climate Finance, whereby health is fully integrated and recognised as a transversal theme that cuts across climate action and sustainable development at large. As we forge ahead amongst several competing global priorities in need of financing, climate-resilient health systems must be considered a mandatory and foundational element to build upon for a prosperous society.

In this context, we are convening a High-level roundtable on Climate and Health to reflect on financing gaps and opportunities, as well as innovative instruments to better track climate finance and bridge the disconnect between money pledged and accounted for, and finance received on the ground.

#### Objectives:

- Lay the groundwork for COP29 and look ahead to COP30, with the aim of uniting a global health voice to place "health" at the core of negotiations including the global goal on adaptation, new climate finance targets and the loss and damage fund.
- Support the bridging and operationalization of agendas such as the Guiding Principles for Financing Climate and Health Solutions and the Joint Roadmap for Climate-Health Finance by International Financing Institutions.
- Engage high-level political leaders to commit to the necessary financing quantum, instruments, and timeframe for delivering climate finance within the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG), which supports all required climate actions, including those in the health sector.



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- Elevate innovative financing models that are just, equitable and non-debt burdening, while strengthening the accountability of allocations to ensure effectiveness of investments, reaching communities.

To achieve the set objectives and foster bold political commitments in the lead-up to COP29, the convening will focus on engaging key policymakers, experts, and diverse health and climate funders. The will strive to lay a foundation for a joint Africa-Europe Climate-Health Roadmap, emphasizing the need for grant-based and blended climate and health financing models that are just, equitable and don't add to existing debt burdens, especially for Africa where the impacts of climate on health are largely felt.

*In partnership with the Africa-Europe Foundation (AEF), Amref Health Africa and the Pan Africa Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)*

### Annex 2: From Risk to Resilience: Unlocking Climate Financing for Local Health Adaptation

**Date:** 25 September 2024

**Time:** 11:30am – 12:30pm EST (doors open at 11:00am EST)

**Location:** 45 Rockefeller Plaza, 27th Floor, New York, NY 10111

**Format:** In person and livestreamed on the Foreign Policy website

The impacts of climate change on global health are intensifying, with over 3.5 billion people living in highly vulnerable areas. By 2050, climate change could cause up to 14.5 million additional deaths and \$12.5 trillion in economic losses globally. As the world approaches the critical 1.5°C threshold, urgent adaptation strategies are needed.

Despite commitments exceeding US \$1 billion for climate and health at COP28 and a resolution on climate change and health by WHO member states, a substantial funding gap persists. Vulnerable countries require hundreds of billions annually for adaptation, but current funding levels are insufficient, with minimal access to funds for local stakeholders and only a fraction of global climate finance reaching communities directly.

The Collective MindS Climate x Health Council, the think tank of Foundation S, has developed an actionable framework to promote flexible and accessible financing for locally led adaptations that protect health. To mark the publication of this action report, *Foreign Policy*, Foundation S, and the Africa-Europe Foundation will host a high-level event at UNGA, bringing together academics, policymakers, and advocates. This event will spotlight how those working at the intersection of climate and health can unlock the potential of locally led adaptations, propose solutions to increase health care systems resilience, and address barriers to climate and health financing to ensure that funding reaches those most in need.

*In partnership with the Africa-Europe Foundation, Foundation S and Foreign Policy*