



**NEST DISTINGUISHED
SPEAKER SERIES**

2:00–3:30 pm

Friday, March 3, 2023

In Person - SSC 6210

Climate Changes Health

Climate change is already causing preventable injuries, illnesses, and deaths. Further climate change is expected to alter the geographic range and burden of a variety of climate-sensitive health outcomes and to affect the functioning of public health and health care systems. If no additional actions are taken, then over the coming decades, substantial increases in morbidity and mortality are expected in association with a range of health outcomes, including heat-related illnesses, illnesses caused by poor air quality, undernutrition from reduced food quality and security, and selected vectorborne diseases in some locations. At the same time, worker productivity is expected to decrease, particularly at low latitudes. Vulnerable populations and regions will be differentially affected, with expected increases in poverty and inequities because of climate change. Investments in and policies to promote proactive and effective adaptation and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation) would decrease the magnitude and pattern of health risks, particularly in the medium-to-long term.

Professor Kristie L. Ebi, Ph.D., MPH is a Professor in the Center for Health and the Global Environment (CHaGE) in the School of Public Health, University of Washington. She has been conducting research on the health risks of climate variability and change for more than 25 years. Her research focuses on understanding sources of vulnerability; estimating current and future health risks of climate change; designing adaptation policies and measures to reduce the risks of climate change in multi-stressor environments; and quantifying the health co-benefits of mitigation policies. She has worked with multiple countries in Africa, Central America, Europe, Asia, and the Pacific in assessing their vulnerability and implementing adaptation measures. She was a lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 6th assessment cycle, including the special report on warming of 1.5°C and the human health chapter for Working Group II. She was a lead author for the 4th US National Climate Assessment. She also co-chairs the International Committee On New Integrated Climate change assessment Scenarios (ICONICS). Her scientific training includes an M.S. in toxicology and a Ph.D. and a Master of Public Health in epidemiology, and two years of postgraduate research at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She edited four books on aspects of climate change and has more than 200 peer-reviewed publications.