



A call for planetary health case studies



For Planetary Health Alliance
see <https://planetaryhealthalliance.org>

Planetary health investigates the human health impacts resulting from anthropogenic disruptions in the structure and function of earth's natural systems.^{1,2} The Planetary Health Alliance and *The Lancet* invite researchers, educators, and decision makers to submit real-world examples of planetary health in action for further development into case studies. We seek examples that show how human disruptions of natural systems (eg, the climate system, specific ecosystems, not solely unaltered ecosystems) can lead to increased burden of disease and show how a better understanding of these connections can lead to interventions or policies with positive health outcomes. The ultimate goal is to create an anthology of case studies in planetary health that illustrate the complexity of mechanisms whereby anthropogenic change impacts human health, the variety of these health impacts, and the diversity of regions and peoples impacted.

Case studies in planetary health are an urgent priority to illustrate integrated approaches for optimising human health in the face of global environmental change and exemplify the complex, systems-thinking and solutions-oriented nature of planetary health. Authors must be willing to work with the Planetary Health Alliance team to further develop their submitted content into fully worked case studies, if selected. Selected submissions will be used to develop teaching cases for global planetary health education efforts. They also will provide rich examples for policy makers, funders, government agencies, and researchers of how planetary health science can better inform decision making to improve human health. Additionally, five to ten submissions to this call will be published in *The Lancet Planetary Health*, and authors could be invited to present their work at the Planetary Health Annual Meeting in May, 2018.

Case studies should be up to 500 words, excluding appendices and references. We consider "case studies" to include reports and other relevant types of research. Please use the following guidelines to format your 500 word narrative. The introduction and background should contextualise the case study and explain its relevance, including the population most

affected, the dynamics and driving forces leading to the human-driven disruption of the particular natural system and its (direct or indirect) impact on human health, and the scale of impact and intervention (how large is the system, how deeply impacted, and how many people affected). The body should describe the stakeholders (who is or was harmed and what vested interests might prevent remedial action); explore what measures have been undertaken so far to address the problem and their effectiveness (quantitative data in this assessment are encouraged); and consider the factors that pointed stakeholders to a planetary health approach (interdisciplinary approach that seeks to manage a natural system so as to optimise the health of a population) for addressing the challenge. The conclusion should highlight solutions and address how well planetary health intervention measures have worked or are working (quantitative data in this assessment are encouraged) and discuss the challenges of implementation, including gaps between the generation of evidence and uptake in policy and practice. Please provide necessary supporting information such as tables, charts, maps, or datasets as appendices and use footnotes or endnotes where appropriate. Submissions of planetary health interventions or solutions that are still underway are welcome.

The submission deadline is 1700h EST on Jan 10, 2018. Please submit your case study of 500 words through the case studies call on the Planetary Health Alliance website. We aim to stimulate the generation of these much-needed resources through the engagement of the Planetary Health Alliance network, and we will aim to make the case studies available to all interested parties.

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We declare no competing interests.

- Whitmee S, Haines A, Beyrer C, et al. Safeguarding human health in the Anthropocene epoch: report of The Rockefeller Foundation-Lancet Commission on planetary health. *Lancet* 2015; **386**: 1973-2028.
- Almada AA, Golden CD, Osofsky SA, Myers SS. A case for Planetary Health/GeoHealth. *GeoHealth* 2017; **1**: 75-78.

To submit your case study go to
<https://planetaryhealthalliance.org/case-studies-call>