

A social journalism project profiling climate and health

Poor quality media coverage of the climate crisis has stimulated innovation

Collaboration locally and globally can convey solutions to the climate crisis

Source: Symlur analytics, for 11 Sept-1 Oct 2019

How Croakey Health Media engaged with the Covering Climate Now Collaboration 29 August 2019 - 23 September 2020

- 43 articles including 6 cross-publications from the collaboration
- A five-hour Twitter festival with 19 guest tweeters
- A sustained Twitter presence
- Launched a fund-raising campaign specifically for health and climate journalistic investigations

By September 2020, more than 400 media organisations had joined the global Covering Climate Now collaboration, which was co-founded by *The Nation* and the *Columbia Journalism Review*, in partnership with *The Guardian*. It is aimed at “breaking the climate silence that has long prevailed within too much of the news media” and doing “justice to the defining story of our time”.

“The overlaps between the coronavirus crisis and the climate crisis are many, and the same best practices when it comes to reporting are needed. Here, too, newsrooms must let facts, especially scientific facts, be our guide. We must stand up to the powerful, remembering that journalists work for the public, not for governments. We must report with compassion, candor, and courage, not only chronicling the ongoing devastation, as important as that is, but also illuminating credible remedies and reasons for hope.”

Covering Climate Now co-founders Mark Hertsgaard and Kyle Pope

Focus on

- Healthcare sector’s responsibility to reduce emissions
- Indigenous knowledges
- Mental health and suicide prevention
- Global health
- Equity
- Climate justice for disabled people
- Public health
- Media coverage of the climate crisis
- Youth perspectives

Other outcomes

- Provided a platform for health professionals and organisations to contribute to climate debate
- Contributed to growth and sustainability of an independent, non-profit public interest journalism organisation
- Provided income for freelance journalists
- Developed networks across health, social, environment and media sectors
- Provided an example of the global and local importance of collaborations

“Our village has disappeared”: Four critical challenges to the health sector from the Pacific

Editor: **Marie McInerney** Author: **Takeshi Kasai and Corinne Capuano**
on: September 17, 2019

In: #CoveringClimateNow, climate change, extreme weather events, global health, Global health and climate change, Healthcare and health reform, Public health and population health, Social determinants of health



Introduction by Croakey: Fiji’s Prime Minister Honourable Frank Bainimarama this week made his first ever official visit to Australia, in the lead up to the Climate Action Summit at the Unit... [Read more >](#)

Calling for climate justice for disabled people

Editor: **Melissa Sweet** Author: **El Gibbs** on: September 18, 2019

In: #CoveringClimateNow, air pollution, climate change, disabilities, Global health and climate change



Responses to the climate crisis must stop excluding disabled people and ensure their knowledge and needs are centred, according to writer El Gibbs. “Listen to us, include us and hear our exp... [Read more >](#)

Use of Twitter

- Shared our publications and those published by other members of the collaboration.
- Applied the hashtag beyond the collaboration’s work, to widen its impact. For example, using the hashtag we shared relevant articles and comments that were not produced by the collaboration but were related to the topic.
- Brought the hashtag into other Twitter streams, where it was relevant for participants; for example #AustPH2019, the stream from the Public Health Association of Australia’s 50th conference; and #CREhealthequity, the stream from a policy symposium held by the Centre for Research Excellence into the Social Determinants of Health Equity.
- Used the hashtag to engage in media critique and advocacy; for example, questioning other Australian media outlets about why they were not part of the collaboration.

A rolling wrap of #CoveringClimateNow Twitter Festival discussions

Editor: **Melissa Sweet** Author: **#CoveringClimateNow tweeps** on: September 24, 2019
In: #CoveringClimateNow, air pollution, climate change, Global health and climate change

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This post is providing rolling coverage from the #CoveringClimateNow Twitter Festival. It is being compiled by Marie McInerney and Melissa Sweet.



Summer May Finlay @SummerMayFinlay · 27m

Before we start #CoveringClimateNow, I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands we are all on today & pay my respects to elders past & present.

I am on Wodi Wodi country in Wollongong.

Please share the traditional custodians of the country you’re on.



Top 10 by Tweets

- @MelissaSweetDr 1,521
- @SummerMayFinlay 572
- @IndigenousPHAA 543
- @WePublicHealth 398
- @CroakeyNews 390
- @coopesdetat 350
- @CoveringClimate 274
- @mariemcinerney 262
- @pauldutton1968 246
- @bluntshovels 236

Profiling Torres Strait Islander solutions for environmental sustainability

Editor: **Melissa Sweet** Author: **Sanchia Shibasaki and Felecia Watkin Lui**
on: September 18, 2019

In: #CoveringClimateNow, #JustClimate, air pollution, climate change, Global health and climate change, Indigenous health, Social determinants of health



Such is the threat of the climate crisis to Torres Strait Islanders that a group has lodged a case with the United Nations Human Rights Committee, arguing that Australia’s failure to take ad... [Read more >](#)

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