



PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM THE ENVIRONMENT

Each year 1.7 million deaths of children under 5 are linked to the environment.

570,000 deaths



Respiratory infections, including pneumonia

360,000 deaths



Diarrhoea

270,000 deaths



Neonatal conditions, including prematurity

200,000 deaths



Unintentional injuries, such as burns, drowning

200,000 deaths



Malaria

26%



World Health Organization

Reducing environmental risks could prevent a quarter of these deaths.



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Environmental risks include air pollution, chemicals, poor water, sanitation and hygiene.

**CHILDREN ARE
AFFECTED BY:**



Air pollution



**Inadequate water,
sanitation and hygiene**



Built environment



Second-hand smoke



Climate change



Hazardous wastes



UV radiation



Hazardous chemicals

**CHILDREN ARE ALSO
AFFECTED BY EMERGING
THREATS SUCH AS:**



**Persistent organic pollutants /
endocrine-disrupting
chemicals**



e-Waste

**Minimising these risks are key to protecting children and
achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.**



**World Health
Organization**

PROTECTING **CHILDREN** FROM THE ENVIRONMENT

Environmental exposures start in the womb, and can have effects throughout life.



**World Health
Organization**

Children, including adolescents, are exposed to a variety of hazards from the environments in which they live, learn and play.

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Air Pollution: An unseen threat to children's health.

Each year, air pollution causes

570,000 deaths

in children under 5. This includes indoor, outdoor and second-hand smoke.



In children, air pollution can:



It can also set the stage for problems later in life from:



Stunt brain development



Reduce lung function & trigger asthma



Cancers



Chronic respiratory illnesses

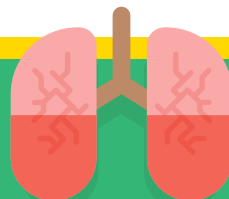


Cardiovascular disease



Stroke

Nearly a million children die from pneumonia each year. Half of those are linked to air pollution.



World Health Organization