

WNF Environmental Health Working Group Terms of Reference

As of April 2026

Rationale

As a professional international association, the WNF is engaged in a diverse range of activities; however, all activities have an overarching goal to enhance and promote the global naturopathic profession and to support internal development and professionalism of its members.

WNF Working Groups are formed to support specific WNF projects that advance the global naturopathic profession and/or add to the professional development of its members. The Environmental Health working group will steward, expand, and regularly update the WNF Environmental Health website as a trusted global educational resource that reflects evolving scientific understanding of environmental pollutants, climate change, and their interconnected impacts on human and planetary health.

Membership

- Number of members: minimum three (3) and maximum eleven (11) members
- At least three (3) world regions represented
- At least one (1) and a maximum of three (3) members from the WNF Executive (one to be WG Lead).
- At least one (1) research representative to assist in maintaining the quality of the resources.
- At least three (3) and a maximum of nine (9) representatives from WNF member organizations that are subject matter experts on Environmental Health and Climate Change.
- The WNF Chief Executive Officer.
- Any conflicts of interest must be declared, and those individuals may be asked to leave the working group.

Period of Office

Appointed members shall normally serve on the Working Group for the duration of two years, but they can serve consecutive terms. The WG may have a Chair and/or Co-Chairs; one which will be the WG Lead reporting to the Executive.

Quorum

The Environmental Health working group is considered to be at quorum based on attendance of three members, including two subject matter experts and the WG Lead or one of the Co-Chairs of the Environmental Health WG.

Goals

The Environmental Health WG shall be directly responsible to the WNF Executive and will have the following functions:

- To support the maintenance and updating the WNF Environmental Health website.
- To conduct and publish a survey examining naturopathic attitudes to Environmental Health and Climate Change.
- To support WNF activities and projects within the remit of the working group's expertise in environmental health and climate change.
- To publish a White Paper on the role of the naturopathic profession with respect to Environmental Health and Climate Change.
- To support the dissemination of the work of the Environmental Health WG.
- To ensure sound fiscal management for any aspects of the project that are directly funded and to provide written monthly updates to the CEO for all funded aspects of the Environmental Health WG.
- To provide regular updates to the WNF Executive.

Meeting Schedule

The AMR WG shall meet four (4) times a year. Additional meetings may be scheduled on a needs basis to enable the Working Group to discharge its duties.

Meeting Procedures

For the purpose of this Working Group, "meeting" shall include a meeting conducted face-to-face, by telephone (teleconference) or by audio visual means. External stakeholders of the WNF may request the opportunity to address the Environmental Health WG at any time and this request will be considered and approved by the WNF Lead. The minutes of the meeting will be recorded and shared with the members within a week of the meeting.

Review and Reference

Terms of Reference and the functioning of the Environmental Health Working Group will be subject to review at least every year by the Board to ensure that it is operating effectively, fulfilling its functions and reviewed for continuing relevance. Each year the Environmental Health WG will undertake a self-evaluation of performance. Areas requiring further attention in the following year will be highlighted to the Board.