



Press Release

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Stopping the Next Pandemic – Policymakers Must Address The Root Causes of Disease Transmission By Protecting Ecosystems and Wildlife

Earth Matters Consulting, an environmentally-focused research firm based in the UAE, has just published a policy brief on how to stop the next pandemic. The brief [‘Addressing the root cause of zoonotic pandemics – protecting ecosystems and improving wildlife trade regulation’](#), makes a call for increased political and financial prioritisation to stop the destruction of nature.

The brief outlines the need for greater funding and coordination of public health and conservation of nature at a global level. The current global focus of only addressing the symptoms, not the root cause of pandemics, will not help to stop the next outbreak. And an inevitable increase in contact between people and livestock with wild animals, as a result of unsustainable land conversion and the illegal and poorly regulated legal trade in wildlife, will result in an increase in transmission of zoonotic diseases between humans and animals.

Targeting policymakers in global health, finance and conservation and wildlife trade, the brief makes the following recommendations.

1.1 Establish an intergovernmental international council with governments, NGOs, businesses and Indigenous People on addressing the root causes of Pandemics.

1.2 Agree goals on integrating the One Health approach into government policies.

2.1 Create a global fund focused on pandemic prevention with the objective of strengthening actions to protect ecosystems and improve wildlife trade regulation.

2.2 Commit to the goal of raising the \$22-31 billion needed¹ annually for pandemic prevention.

¹ Identified by IPBES: [IPBES Workshop on Biodiversity and Pandemics Report_0.pdf](#)



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2.3 Acquire financing from governments with additional contributions from the private sector.

2.4 Distribute funds through Country Coordinating Mechanisms.

3.1 Protect ecosystems and improve wildlife trade regulation through the global fund.

3.2 Improve wildlife trade regulation in export, transit and import countries.

3.3 Support research.

3.4 Prioritise education, awareness and capacity building with Local Communities and other stakeholders.

Commenting on the importance of the brief, Tanzeed Alam, Managing Director of Earth Matters Consulting said:

"We must urgently change the status quo by scaling up the protection and enhancement of our natural ecosystems, as that is the foundation of all health and well-being. Earth Matters Consulting is happy to work with any organisation looking to find opportunities for such solutions."

Contact Us

The Earth Matters team is available to conduct media interviews and discuss interest from stakeholders about the policy brief.

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