



Insieme, per un mondo possibile

X Rome International Workshop RIW 2025

THE WORLD'S BREATH

Global air pollution: causes, dimensions, solutions

Tuesday 15th July 2025 3:00 pm - 7:30 pm CEST

free online



The Rome International Workshop RIW reaches its 10th edition

As every year, as a culmination of the online course "Environment and Climate in International Cooperation Projects," the trainees and their teacher offer the audience the *Rome International Workshop (RIW)*, a conference event to reflect on the links between environment, climate change and international cooperation.

This year it will be held on **Tuesday 15th July from 3:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. CEST online**. The 10th edition of focuses on one of the most pressing global challenges of our time: air pollution. Under the title **"The World's Breath,"** the event offers a multidisciplinary platform for dialogue, reflection, and knowledge exchange on the causes, dimensions, and possible solutions to air pollution across the globe. Air pollution is not only an environmental issue, but also a health, social, economic, and geopolitical concern. It intersects with climate change, urbanization, public health, and inequality, affecting both high- and low-income communities with varying degrees of severity.

The workshop brings together experts, institutions, researchers, and civil society representatives to explore this complexity, highlighting emerging risks, structural vulnerabilities, and the disproportionate impacts on marginalized populations. With contributions from international organizations, academic institutions, environmental agencies, and grassroots movements, the event aims to foster a shared understanding of the phenomenon and promote collaborative approaches. It also showcases promising practices and technologies that can help mitigate pollution and protect both people and the planet.

By creating space for diverse perspectives and grounded experiences, *The World's Breath* seeks to inspire action, inform policy, and support a more just and sustainable future where clean air is a universal human right, not a mere privilege.

Experts from various corners of the world will dialogue together with the audience in several sessions:

Session 1 - Air Pollution: multidimensional meaning of a global phenomenon	3:00 pm
Session 2 - Pollutants and emerging threats: old patterns and new realities	4:00 pm
Session 3 - Air pollution-induced poverty: inequalities and vulnerabilities	5:00 pm
Session 4 - Beyond the haze: best practices and paths forward	6:00 pm
Summary Session (<i>VIS President, as usual, is invited to contribute her qualified views</i>)	7:00 pm

Registration at this link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/30405ayJRg2tCimSrAZ2Ew#/registration>

Session 1 – Air Pollution: multidimensional meaning of a global phenomenon

3:00 pm

Introduction - by Gabriella PETRINA (VIS Advanced Studies School) and Massimo ZORTEA (University of Trento)

- *Following air pollution from emissions to impact*

Jamie KELLY (Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air - CREA)

- *Agricultural wrong practices and air pollution: a complex cause/effect chain*

Paolo GUARNACCIA (University of Catania)

- *Short- and long-term impacts on human health caused by pollutants*

Rodolfo SARDONE (CTE Calliope, University of Bari)

Moderator: Miriam CANNELLA

Rapporteur: Rossana DI MOIA

Session 2 – Pollutants and emerging threats: old patterns and new realities

4:00 pm

- *Air pollution and human health: from established risks to emerging threats*

Francesco ROMIZI (International Society of Doctors for Environment ISDE)

- *Emerging contaminants, including pharmaceuticals, personal care products, microplastics, and per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances and associated threats*

Biplab CHAKRABARTY (Fondazione Albero della Vita *Tree of Life Foundation*)

Moderator: Alice LUNARDELLI

Rapporteur: Michela GUERINI

Session 3 – Air pollution-induced poverty: inequalities and vulnerabilities

5:00 pm

- *Impacts for local population of burning agricultural waste: insights from Sicily*

Alessia GAMBUTTA (Legambiente Sicily)

- *Ghana's waste crisis: Air Pollution, Environmental Justice, and the Need for Global Action*

Mike ANANE (freelance journalist)

Moderator: Miriam CANNELLA

Rapporteur: Giulia MALLO

Session 4 – Beyond the haze: best practices and paths forward

6:00 pm

- *The role of civil society in air pollution monitoring and mitigation*

Anna GEROMETTA (Cittadini per l'Aria *Citizens for Air*)

- *Monitoring quality air & citizens science innovative instruments*

Fabio CERINO (CTE Calliope)

Moderator: Alice LUNARDELLI

Rapporteuse: Vanessa PISCAGLIA

Main findings and closing remarks

7:00 pm

- *Main findings from the four thematic sessions*

The 4 Rapporteuses

- *Lessons learnt for VIS mission*

Michela VALLARINO (VIS, President)

- *Closing remarks*

Massimo ZORTEA (University of Trento, course instructor)