



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS 2025 MEHA ANNUAL AND ELECTIVE GENERAL MEETING

Background

The Malawi Environmental Health Association (MEHA) is a registered trust comprised of environmental health professionals (with the title of “Health Inspectors” under the Public Health Act, Chapter 34.01 of the Laws of Malawi). MEHA will host a National Environmental Health Conference and Annual General Meeting in collaboration with the Malawi Ministry of Health, The Ministry of Water and Sanitation, the National Water Resources Authority (NWRA), the Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS), the Malawi College of Health Sciences (MCHS), Africa Academy for Environmental Health, the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH), Association of Safety, Health and Environment Practitioners (ASHEP) and various development partners under the theme:

“UNITING PREVENTIVE HEALTH DISCIPLINES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACTION”

Venue	SUNBIRD LIVINGSTONIA HOTEL, SALIMA, MALAWI
Dates	21-22 August, 2025

Conference and AGM Thrusts

- 1. Innovative Approaches to Environmental Health Challenges:** The conference and AGM provide a platform for professionals, scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and interested parties in environmental health to come together and share the latest research findings, successful strategies, and innovative developments. The goal is to improve health outcomes and promote socio-economic advancement.
- 2. Strengthening Public Health Systems and Policies:** The AGM will focus on enhancing public health systems and policy implementation strategies. It will also provide a platform for government departments, NGOs, academia, industries, and other stakeholders to showcase innovations and exemplary practices in environmental health that have significantly improved the lives of the underprivileged, strengthening public health systems and policy implementation.
- 3. Global Health Security and Pandemic Preparedness:** The AGM and conference offer MEHA affiliates and relevant stakeholders an opportunity to discuss how environmental health significantly contributes to the prevention, detection, and response to pandemics and



emergencies, thereby enhancing global health security. There will be focused discussions on various events that have affected the world, including specific impacts on Malawi i.e. COVID-19, health and safety, cholera, polio outbreak and public health disruptions due to Cyclone Freddy.

4. **Climate Change and Health Resilience.** The AGM offers the association a chance to showcase its achievements, projects, initiatives, and milestones from the previous year. It also provides an opportunity to discuss how environmental health practices contribute to mitigating the effects of climate change and the environment on the health of the communities they serve.

Furthermore, the AGM provides all environmental health professionals, guests, and other stakeholders with a chance to connect with peers, colleagues, and potential collaborators, enabling the exchange of ideas and the advancement of the field.

Registration and Call for Abstracts

The Malawi Environmental Health Association (MEHA) and its partners are currently requesting abstract submissions from researchers on best practices and innovations related to the specific subthemes mentioned herein.

Focus Area	Themes	Specific Areas
Community Health Disease control Vector control Health promotion Population Health Environmental health epidemiology	“Empowering Communities for Health and Wellness: Strategies for Disease Prevention and Population Health”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Community Health Challenges • Current Challenges and Innovations in Health Education and Promotion • Decentralized Delivery of Healthcare Services • One Health • Emerging environmental health risks
Food Safety and Hygiene	“Ensuring Safe and Hygienic Food Practices: Nurturing Healthier Communities”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Safety and Animal Health • Food Safety Legislation • Food Safety Education and Public Health
Pollution Control Air quality WASH Waste Management	“Sustainable Solutions for Environmental Health: Pollution Control, Air Quality, WASH, and Waste Management”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WASH and Sustainable Development Goals. • Addressing WASH Challenges to Tackle Emerging Diseases • Cholera Outbreaks and Disaster Management Practices • Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) and School Retention Rates • Enhancing the Availability of WASH Services and Creating a Hygienic Environment for Health and Well-being • The Intersection of Living Environments, Air and Water Pollution, and their Impact on Health



Occupational Health and Safety	“Prioritizing Safety: Promoting Health and Well-being in the Workplace”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrating Occupational Health and Safety into the Pursuit of Sustainable Development Goals
Built environment. Housing Building Services Recreational spaces	“Creating Healthy Environments: Innovations in Housing, Building Services, and Recreational Spaces”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing and the Living Environment as Social Determinants of Health and Well-being
Climate Change, Environmental Health, Technologies and Innovation	Navigating Climate Change: Environmental Health, Technologies, and Innovations for Sustainable Futures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts of Climate Change on Population Health Integration of Disasters and Environmental Health Innovations in Environmental Health Practice Delivery and Their Scalability

Target

The conference is expected to attract researchers in environmental health from both local and international backgrounds. Additionally, the conference aims to engage top government officials in health, agriculture, transport, education, as well as environmental health professionals from the public, private, and NGO sectors, along with students. Submissions from the hospitality and other industries that directly impact or have implications for the environment and public health will also be accepted.

Abstract Submission Guidelines

Abstracts can be submitted in the form of a paper, poster, or multimedia presentation. These submissions can originate from various sources, including research work, academic research, or professional practice. For papers, presentations should last 10 minutes, with an additional 5 minutes allocated for questions. Posters should not exceed the size of 120 cm by 80 cm or be in the form of an e-poster. Multimedia presentations can take various forms, such as short films, documentaries, animated films, or photo essays.

Abstracts that have technical and professional merit and are relevant to the conference themes should include the following information.

- Title (maximum 25 words) and author contact details.
- A superscript asterisk should be used for the corresponding author.
- List of co-authors for listing in the abstract book, if applicable.
- Names of affiliations should be given including the country.
- Affiliations should be indicated with superscript Arabic numbers appearing at the end of surname/family name.
- If multiple names and addresses exist, they should be related by superscript numbers.
- Abstracts should represent their original work.



- A structured abstract of 400 words or less should be prepared, covering background, methods, results, discussion, and conclusions/recommendations.
- The Abstract should be written in English.
- For multimedia submission: link to the video/photos if available. Please indicate one to three most relevant themes for your abstract from the conference tracks.
- **All accepted oral and poster submissions are advised to prepare their logistics for the conference. This includes registration for attendance, lodging, and transportation.**

(Templates may be requested through emails provided below)

Vital Dates

SN	EVENT	BY DATES
1	Receiving the abstracts	30 st June, 2025
2	Notification of acceptance	10 th July, 2025
3	Full paper / PPT submission	30 th July, 2025
3	Registration for attendance/participation	8 th August, 2025
4	PowerPoint presentation	8 th August, 2025

Prospective authors should submit abstracts in MS Word (.doc or .docx) format to mehamalawi@gmail.com, with a copy sent to yohane.phiri@unlv.edu. We will acknowledge receipt of abstracts within three working days.