

# CARLOS CORVALAN

## Career summary

I am an environmental health specialist with training in occupational and environmental epidemiology, a Master of Public Health from Sydney University (Australia), an MA in Migration studies from Macquarie University (Australia) and a PhD in Environmental Health from Radboud (formerly Nijmegen) University (the Netherlands). I worked at the National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety in Australia, prior to joining the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1993, where I worked first as a scientist then as the coordinator of the unit dealing with environmental and occupational health. Between 2008 and 2015 I was the Senior Advisor on Risk Assessment and Global Environmental Change at the Pan American Health Organization/ World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO). Afterwards I was an Adjunct Professor at the Faculty of Health, University of Canberra, and until February 2018, Deputy Director, Environmental Health, at the Ministry of Health, NSW, Australia. During 2018 I was based at PAHO/WHO, Washington DC where I was Unit Chief, Climate Change and Environmental Determinants of Health. I am currently an Adjunct Professor at the Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney.

I am the editor and author of several WHO books and key reports, including *Decision-making in environmental health – from evidence to action (2000)*, *Climate change and human health – risks and responses (2003)*, and the WHO report *Ecosystems and human well-being – health synthesis (2005)*, which is WHO's contribution to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. I also co-authored a key WHO report, *Preventing diseases through healthy environments (2006)* which provided the first systematic estimate of the Global Burden of Disease from environmental factors; *Our planet, our health, our future – Human health and the Rio Conventions (2012)* launched at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), and of the WHO 2016 report *Preventing diseases through healthy environments – A global assessment of the burden of disease from environmental risks*; and more recently, *Climate change and health in small island developing States - A WHO special initiative (2019)*. For many years I have given workshops to representatives from Ministries of Health and other government officials and experts, as well as lectures and keynote addresses in international conferences, to promote awareness and action related to protecting public health from social and environmental inequalities, global environmental changes, and climate change in particular.

Between 1994 and 2015, I officially represented WHO in major United Nations events, including UN Environment's Executive Council; Conferences of the Parties of the Conventions on Climate Change (UNFCCC), on Biological Diversity (CBD) and on Desertification (UNCCD); the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment; the meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development. I was also an official delegate at the UN Conference on Sustainable development (Rio +20) in Rio de Janeiro, 2012. In 2018 I contributed to WHO's small island developing States initiative on climate change and health, in regional conferences held in Fiji, Mauritius and Grenada. My public health interests and expertise include the environmental and social determinants of health, health inequalities, the health aspects of ecosystem change, climate change and climate related impacts, energy, and urban health.

I am an Australian citizen, and Chilean by birth. I have lived and worked in Santiago, Chile; Madrid, Spain; Geneva, Switzerland; Washington DC, USA; Brasilia, Brazil. I am currently based in Sydney, Australia.

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## Education

- PhD (Environmental Health), Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands, 1998
- Master of Public Health (Epidemiology), the University of Sydney, 1993
- Master of Arts (Migration studies), Macquarie University, Sydney, 1989
- Bachelor of Arts (Demography), Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, 1986
- Faculty of Sciences, Universidad de Chile, Santiago, 1972
- HSC: The International School “*Nido de Aguilas*”, Santiago, Chile.

Languages                      Spanish (first language); English (excellent)  
   Portuguese (advanced); French (intermediate)

## Professional experience

2016 to present: Adjunct Professor at the Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney

2018: Unit Chief, Climate Change and Environmental Determinants of Health, Pan American Health Organization/ World Health Organization, Washington DC.

2016 to 2018: Deputy Director, Environmental Health branch, Ministry of Health, NSW, Australia.

2015 to 2018: Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Health, University of Canberra.

2008-2015: Senior Advisor, Risk Assessment and Global Environmental Change, Pan American Health Organization/ World Health Organization, Washington DC; from January 2012 to June 2015, based in Brasilia, Brazil.

2003-2007: Coordinator, Occupational and Environmental Health. Department of Protection of the Human Environment, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland.

1993-2003: Scientist, Department of Protection of the Human Environment, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland.

1993: Biostatistician, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Helsinki, Finland.

1991-1993: Senior Professional Officer, Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit, National Occupational Health and Safety Commission.

1990-91: Senior Research Officer, Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit, National Occupational Health and Safety Commission.

## Publications

### I Journals

Lo S, Gaudin S, Corvalan C, Earle A, Hanssen O, Prüss-Ustun A, Neira M, Soucat A. The Case for Public Financing of Environmental Common Goods for Health. *Health Systems and Reform* (online, 19 September 2019).

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Sena A, Barcellos C, Freitas C, Corvalan C. Managing the Health Impacts of Drought in Brazil. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.* 2014; 11(10):10737-10751.

Freitas C, Silva D, Sena A, Lima E, Sales B, Carvalho M, Mazoto M, Barcellos C, Costa A, Oliveira M, Corvalan C. Natural disasters and health: an analysis of the situation in Brazil. *Cien Saude Colet*, 19(9):3645-3656, 2014.

Romanelli C, Corvalan C, Cooper D, Manga L, Maiero M, Campbell-Lendrum D. From Manaus to Maputo: toward a public health and biodiversity framework. *EcoHealth*, DOI: 10.1007/s10393-014-0959-2, 2014.

Jancloes M, Thomson M, Manéz Costa M, Hewitt C, Corvalan C, Dinku T, Lowe R, Hayden M. Climate services to improve public health. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 2014, 11: 4555-4559.

Carneiro F, Franco Netto G, Corvalan C, Freitas C, Sales B. Environmental health and inequalities: building indicators for sustainable development. *Cien Saude Colet*, 2012,17(6):1419-25

Vlahov D, Agarwal S, Buckley R, Caiaffa W, Corvalan C, Ezeh A, et al. Roundtable on Urban Living Environment Research (RULER). *Journal of Urban Health*, 2011; 88: 793-857.

Barcellos C, Vieira Monteiro AM, Corvalán C, Gurgel H, Carvalho M, Artaxo P, Hacon S, Ragoni V. Mudanças climáticas e ambientais e as doenças infecciosas: cenários e incertezas para o Brasil (Climate and environmental change and their effect on infectious diseases: scenarios and uncertainties for Brazil). *Epidemiol. Serv. Saude* 2009, 18(3):285-304.

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McMichael AJ, Friel S, Nyong A, Corvalan C. Global environmental change and health: impacts, inequalities, and the health sector. *BMJ* 2008; 336: 191-194

Pruss-Ustun A, Corvalan C. How Much Disease Burden can be prevented by Environmental Interventions? *Epidemiology* 2007;18(1):167-178.

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M Fingerhut, D Imel Nelson, T Driscoll, M Concha-Barrientos, K Steenland, L Punnett, A Prüss-Üstün, J Leigh, C Corvalan, G Eijkemans, J Takala. The Contribution of Occupational Risks to the Global Burden of Disease: Summary and Next Steps. *La Medicina del Lavoro* 97(2):313-323 (2006)

Nelson D, Concha M, Driscoll T, Steenland K, Fingerhut M Punnett L, Pruss-Ustun A, Leigh J, Corvalan C. The Global Burden of selected occupational diseases and injury risks: Methods and summary. *Am J Ind Med* 48:400-418, 2005.

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Leigh J, Driscoll T, Baker G, Corvalán C. The Australian mesothelioma program: recent research results. *J Occup Health Safety - Aust NZ* 1991;7:365-71.

## **II Books and major reports**

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Wolf J, Pruss-Ustun A, Ivanoc I, Mugdal S, Corvalan C, Bos R, Neira M. Preventing disease through a healthier and safer workplace – A global assessment of the burden of disease from environmental risks. World Health Organization, Geneva, 2018.

Pruss-Ustun A, Wolf J, Corvalan C, Bos R, Neira M. Preventing disease through healthy environments – A global assessment of the burden of disease from environmental risks. World Health Organization, Geneva, 2016.

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Patz J, Corvalan C, Horwitz P, Campbell-Lendrum D. Our Planet, Our Health, Our Future. Human health and the Rio Conventions: biological diversity, climate change and desertification. World Health Organization, 2012.

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McMichael A, Campbell-Lendrum D, Corvalan C, et al (Eds). Climate change and human health – risks and responses. World Health Organization, 2003

World Health Organization. World Health Report 2002. Reducing risks, promoting healthy life. WHO, 2002 (contributed to report sections).

Corvalán C, Briggs D, Zielhuis G. (eds) Decision-making in Environmental Health: from evidence to action. E&FN SPON on behalf of the World Health Organization, London, 2000

Corvalán C, Nurminen M, Pastides H (eds), Linkage Methods for Environment and Health Analysis - *Technical guidelines*. WHO, Geneva, 1997.

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### **III Reports**

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Sena A, Machado C, Lima E, Corvalan C. Atuação do setor saúde frente a situações de seca. Serie desenvolvimento sustentável e saúde 3. Pan American Health Organization, 2015.

Freitas C, Silva D, Sena A, Lima E, Sales B, Carvalho M, Mazoto M, Barcellos C, Costa A, Oliveira M, Corvalan C. Desastres naturais e saúde no Brasil. Serie desenvolvimento sustentável e saúde 2. Pan American Health Organization, 2014.

Corvalan C, Duarte E, Vazquez E. Desenvolvimento sustentável e saúde: tendências dos indicadores e desigualdades no Brasil. Serie desenvolvimento sustentável e saúde 1. Pan American Health Organization, 2014.

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Kovats S, Butler C, Corvalán C, Morse A, McMichael AJ, Rosenberg M, Confalonieri U, Haines A, Poveda G, Aguirre A, Oswald-Spring U, Cesario M, Lindgren E. Global health for a planet under pressure. Transition to sustainability: interconnected challenges and solutions. Rio +20 Policy Brief # 9. London, 2011.

Health Canada. Adapting to Extreme Heat Events: Guidelines for Assessing Health Vulnerability. Health Canada, Ottawa, 2011.

Freitas C, Giatti L, Desmouliere S, Sobral A. Sustentabilidade ambiental e saúde na Amazônia legal, Brasil: uma análise através de indicadores. C Corvalan & G Franco-Netto (Eds), Serie Saúde Ambiental 4, Pan American Health Organization, Brasília, 2010.

Fenner A, Lima E, Gurgel H. Mudança climática e saúde: um perfil do Brasil. C Corvalan & G Franco-Netto (Eds), Serie Saúde Ambiental 3, Pan American Health Organization, Brasília, 2009.

Freitas C, Levino A, Rozemberg B, Corvalan C, et al. Enfoques ecossistêmicos em saúde: Perspectivas para sua adoção no Brasil e países da América latina. Serie Saúde Ambiental 2, Pan American Health Organization, Brasília, 2009.

Barcellos C, Monteiro M, Corvalan C, et al. Mudanças climáticas e ambientais e seus efeitos na saúde. Serie Saúde Ambiental 1, Pan American Health Organization, Brasília, 2008.

Campbell-Lendrum D, Woodruff R. Climate change: Quantifying the health impact at national and local level. In A Prüss-Üstün, C Corvalán, (Eds), Environmental burden of disease series 14. World Health Organization, 2007.

Kuhn K, Campbell-Lendrum D, Haines A, Cox J. Using climate to predict infectious disease epidemics. D Campbell-Lendrum, C Corvalán, M Anker (Eds). World Health Organization, 2005.

Desai M, Mehta S, Smith K. Indoor smoke from solid fuels. . In A Prüss-Üstün, D Campbell-Lendrum, C Corvalán, A Woodward, (Eds), Environmental Burden of Disease Series No. 4. Geneva, 2004 World Health Organization.

Ostro B. Outdoor air pollution. In A Prüss-Üstün, D Campbell-Lendrum, C Corvalán, A Woodward, (Eds), Environmental Burden of Disease Series No. 5. Geneva, 2004 World Health Organization.

Driscoll T, Steenland K, Prüss-Üstün A, Nelson D, Leigh J. Occupational carcinogens. In A Prüss-Üstün, D Campbell-Lendrum, C Corvalán, A Woodward, (Eds), Environmental Burden of Disease Series No. 6. Geneva, 2004 World Health Organization.

Driscoll T, Steenland K, Nelson D, Leigh J. Occupational airborne particulates. . In A Prüss-Üstün, D Campbell-Lendrum, C Corvalán, A Woodward, (Eds), Environmental Burden of Disease Series No. 7. Geneva, 2004 World Health Organization.

Concha-Barrientos M, Campbell-Lendrum D, Steenland K. Occupational noise. In A Prüss-Üstün, D Campbell-Lendrum, C Corvalán, A Woodward, (Eds), Environmental Burden of Disease Series No. 9. Geneva, 2004 World Health Organization.

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Prüss-Üstün A, Rapiti E, Hutin Y. Sharps injuries. In A Prüss-Üstün, D Campbell-Lendrum, C Corvalán, A Woodward, (Eds), Environmental Burden of Disease Series No. 3. Geneva, 2003 World Health Organization.

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#### **IV**     *Chapters in books*

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Cooper D, Romanelli C, Maiero M, Campbell-Lendrum D, Corvalan C, Gaffikin L, Bardosh K, Buss D, Goring E, Karesh W, Kretsch C, Golden C, Machalaba C, Otmani del Barrio M, Prieur-Richard A. Integrating health and biodiversity: strategies, tools and further research. In: WHO/CBD. Connecting Global Priorities: Biodiversity and Human Health A State of Knowledge Review. WHO/CBD, 2015.

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**V**      ***Series and Journal special issue organizer***

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