Annex-1.

Call for Action in India

India now needs to move from heat preparedness to **heat protection that works in daily life of all Indians**. The priority is not only to issue warnings, but to ensure that people can act on them and have matching public resources. Heat Action Plans should therefore link forecasts with drinking water, shaded and cooled spaces, safer working hours, health preparedness, and financial protection for those who cannot afford to stop working.

Women, home-based workers, informal workers, older persons, persons with disabilities, and low-income households must be treated as central actors in heat planning. Their knowledge of household temperatures, water needs, care responsibilities, work patterns, and livelihood constraints should shape local plans and budgets on an ongoing basis.

Cities and states should scale practical low-cost measures such as cool roofs, ventilation, shade, reliable water access, and neighbourhood cooling options. Local organisations, schools, women's groups, health workers, and community networks should be used as trusted channels for two-way risk communication and allocate suitable resources to match local actions from India to the region.

Heat resilience must also be integrated into housing, labour, health, social protection, agriculture, urban planning, infrastructure, and development finance. India should measure progress not by the number of plans produced, but by whether exposed people can remain safe, healthy, and economically secure during extreme heat each summer and between summers.