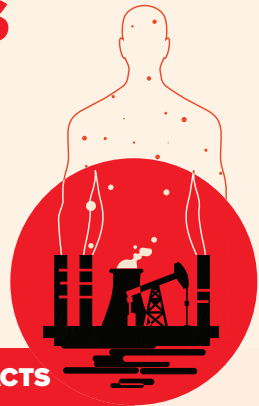


HEALTH HARMS OF FOSSIL FUELS

A BIODIVERSITY AND HEALTH LENS FROM EXPLORATION TO CLOSURE

As **evidenced** in *Cradle to Grave: The Health Toll of Fossil Fuels and the Imperative for a Just Transition (2nd edition), 2025*

This poster highlights how environmental and ecosystem impacts across the fossil fuel lifecycle contribute to adverse health and wellbeing outcomes.



FOSSIL FUEL LIFECYCLE	ENVIRONMENT AND ECOSYSTEM IMPACT	HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPACTS
 Extraction Key Contaminants • Methane • VOCs • Heavy metals • Radioactive materials • Silica dust • Particulate matter	 • Habitat destruction and fragmentation • Deforestation and loss of wildlife habitats • Soil and groundwater contamination • Disturbance of ecosystems	 • Respiratory and cardiovascular diseases • Neurological impacts • Kidney and liver damage • Cancers • Mental health impacts (stress, anxiety, depression) • Displacement, loss of livelihoods and community wellbeing • Impacts on Indigenous lands and cultural heritage
 Refining & Processing Key Contaminants • VOCs • Benzene • PAHs • SO₂ • NO₂ • Particulate matter	 • Air pollution • Water pollution and toxic discharges • Soil contamination • Degradation of rivers, lakes and coastal waters • Ecosystem degradation	 • Respiratory and cardiovascular diseases • Cancers • Neurological and developmental impacts • Kidney and liver damage • Reproductive and developmental effects • Mental health impacts • Displacement, loss of livelihoods and community wellbeing • Impacts on Indigenous lands and cultural heritage
 Transport and Storage Key Contaminants • Oil • VOCs • Methane • Heavy metals • Particulate matter	 • Oil spills and leaks • Contamination of marine and freshwater ecosystems • Threats to fisheries and aquatic life • Contamination of drinking water sources	 • Unsafe drinking water • Food insecurity • Respiratory and cardiovascular diseases • Mental health impacts • Displacement, loss of livelihoods and community wellbeing • Impacts on Indigenous lands and cultural heritage
 Combustion Key Contaminants • PM_{2.5} • Black carbon • Ozone • NO₂ • SO₂ • CO • PAHs	 • Air pollution • Climate change • Biodiversity loss and species extinction • Ecosystem degradation	 • Respiratory and cardiovascular diseases • Heat-related illness • Cancers • Neurological impacts • Infectious diseases • Mental health impacts • Displacement, loss of livelihoods and community wellbeing • Impacts on Indigenous lands and cultural heritage
 Waste and Post-Combustion Key Contaminants • Arsenic • Mercury • Lead • Cadmium • Chromium • PAHs • Residual toxic waste	 • Long-term contamination of soil and groundwater • Toxic residues persist in ecosystems • Soil and groundwater contamination • Degradation of ecosystems over time	 • Kidney and liver damage • Reproductive health effects. • Contaminated drinking water • Mental health impacts • Displacement, loss of livelihoods and community wellbeing • Impacts on Indigenous lands and cultural heritage

