

“While the world debates parts per million of toxins, now is the need for measuring the *parts per million of broken spirits, forgotten minds, as silent trauma* pollution is destroying both ecosystems and emotional ecosystems.”

1. “Chemical exposure leaves behind more than toxins. This leaves behind trauma.”
2. “We don’t just collect waste data; we collect stories of mothers miscarrying from heavy metal exposure, children dropping out of school from cognitive decline, and workers self-medicating with alcohol to numb the pain of poisoned lungs. That’s the unseen cost of pollution.”
3. “Mental health is not a luxury. It’s a missing metric in pollution management.”
4. “We call on this Panel to redefine ‘pollution exposure’ to include psychological toxicity because the mind cannot heal in a poisoned environment.”

Call for Action

“Let the SPP be remembered as the first science-policy panel that declared: **there is no environmental health without mental health**. Let us integrate trauma-informed frameworks into pollution response. Let us build communities where cleaning up a landfill also means cleaning up despair.”

Unique Solutions to Propose

- Incorporate the first “Mental Health approach in Waste Zones”. This calls for a Global Pilot Project combining chemical monitoring, therapy, and non-violent communication.
- Establish a “Psychosocial Resilience Scorecard” as a mandatory part of national chemical impact reports.
- Create a “Pollution & Mental Health Innovation Fund” at UNEP or the Science-Policy Panel level.

To end, “We’re not just fighting for clean air and clean water. We’re fighting for clean minds, restored hope, and a world where healing the planet means healing its people.”

This is a pivotal moment. We must no longer silo environmental science from human wellbeing. Let us rise as a global coalition, scientists, policymakers, government, member states, NGOs and communities united in reshaping not only our planet but the emotional and psychological landscapes of the people who live on it to thrive without leaving anyone behind.

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