

Episode 56MU December 10, 2023. Smog blankets COP28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Bringing the issue down to earth.

RAWSEP View: In December 2023, air pollution closed an Indian airport. A few months ago a Canadian airport closed due to air pollution. Business as usual was interrupted by PM2.5 air pollution in those instances. In December 2023, Delegates to COP28 experience air pollution that leaves them coughing. Welcome to the daily experience of a near neighbor of an indoor residential wood burner. The source may not necessarily be wood burning, but air pollution affects the human ability to conduct business and live our lives, whether here in the United States when struggling to breathe although you are not in a "sensitive" group, or in Dubai. Of course, air pollution also hastens climate change, the subject of the Dubai COP28 conference. United Arab Emirates, Dubai. RAWSEP believes that the key takeaway, besides the recognition of air pollution interfering with COP28 business, is the conclusion that climate activists drive negotiations at COP28. RAWSEP hopes that human health activists also influence or influenced negotiations at COP28, if any were being held, about pollution's effect on human health. Do the delegates know or acknowledge that wood burning emits more PM2.5 and CO2 than the fossil fuel coal burning? Do the delegates to COP28 know or acknowledge that replacing fossil fuel coal burning plants with wood burning plants brings us closer to climate change, not farther away? The article below does at least state that PM2.5 (what is making the journalists cough) is the greatest threat to human health. Quoting ANDREW FREEDMAN: So climate activists really play, kind of a conscience role. They're, they're the conscience of the UNFCCC process in a way. They team up with different country coalitions to push certain positions so that negotiators take them into the negotiating rooms. [Dubai dispatch: Smog blankets COP28 climate summit - Axios](#) Particles known as particulate matter 2.5, also referred to as pm 2.5, are the air pollution source that poses the greatest danger to public health. DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — After five days in Dubai for the UN COP28 climate talks, my throat hurts and I can't stop coughing, writes Axios "1 Big Thing" podcast host Niala Boodhoo. Driving the news: Axios Publisher Nick Johnston said his lungs felt like they were on fire. Dec 8, 2023 - [Energy & Environment](#) Dubai dispatch: Smog blankets COP28 climate summit. DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — After five days in Dubai for the UN [COP28 climate talks](#), my throat hurts and I can't stop coughing, writes Axios "1 Big Thing" podcast host Niala Boodhoo. **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates, a 501c3 nonprofit organization.** Driving the news: Axios Publisher Nick Johnston said his lungs felt like they were on fire. Other colleagues felt similarly, complaining of lungs hurting or heartburn. At first, we thought it was jet lag or allergies — then we realized it was likely from the air pollution here. What they're saying: The United Arab Emirates' official line is that the pollution is caused by sandstorms from the desert. But former Vice President Al Gore, who spoke to Axios in Dubai earlier this week, had a different take: "Have you been breathing the air here today? It was 12x higher than the W.H.O. minimum standards for healthy air. Three days ago, was 14x. Yesterday was 11x." The big picture: Human Rights Watch [in a report released on Monday](#) attributes air pollution to the country's "vast [fossil fuel](#) production" that "spew toxic pollutants into the air." Methane flares dot parts of Dubai (we can see them from our kitchen window in the Marina district). HRW also pointed out that those in the UAE wanting to report on or speak out about the risks of fossil fuel expansion and its links to air pollution face risks of "unlawful surveillance, arrest, detention and ill-treatment." Our thought bubble via Senior Climate Reporter Andrew Freedman: It's not just fossil fuel production sources. Particles known as particulate matter 2.5, also referred to as pm 2.5, are the air pollution source that poses the greatest danger to public health. They are also emitted by industrial facilities, cars and trucks (there's a lot of traffic here), and other sources (which RAWSEP speculates could include indoor residential wood burning or outdoor wood burning). Follow [Andrew on X](#) and [Niala on Instagram](#) for more of our COP28 coverage from Dubai. Also, check the latest episode on our new [podcast, "1 big thing,"](#) which has a special focus on climate. Getting rich countries to pay up for climate change. December 7, 2023. **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates, a 501c3 nonprofit organization.** <https://www.axios.com/2023/12/07/harjeet-singh-getting-rich-countries-to-pay-up-for-climate-change> Welcome back to 1 big thing from Axios. I'm Niala Boodhoo. Let's get back to my conversation with Harjeet Singh, the Head of Global Political Strategy for Climate Action Network International. I spoke to him in Dubai where I'm covering COP28, the climate conference, and where one major controversy has been that this year's COP president is Sultan Ahmed al-Jaber, the UAE climate envoy and CEO of the state-owned Abu Dhabi National Oil Company. Al-Jaber made waves when he said there was "no science" behind the push to phase out fossil fuels, which was widely criticized. After an uproar - he then said he did respect the science. I asked Harjeet about this year's COP president (U A E's Al-Jabar). HARJEET: Having a COP president who continues to remain in the post of CEO of an oil company is just not acceptable. And that's why we challenge that. If we have real leaders who step up and lead by example, and they have the obligation to lead, but they're not leading. NIALA: Do you feel like the spirit of the

conversation has changed? HARJEET: I would say it's beginning to change. I think it's the power of vulnerable countries, civil society, supported by media, has really helped us echo that a shift is required and that's why here at COP28 on the very first day when we got the decision on loss and damage, it was actually to respond to some of those concerns that this process has not been delivering. it was strategic to have that decision. I've been following negotiations for 15 years, I can tell you, it's excruciating. Things that should stand on its own. are traded. NIALA: Like what? HARJEET: If you want money for loss and damage, then you have to make sure that you get more ambition from developing countries without any offer of financial support for mitigation. the way Paris Agreement looks right now was nowhere near what rich countries wanted. (Rich countries) only wanted mitigation to be in Paris Agreement. (rich countries) know that developing countries don't reduce emissions, (developing countries as well as rich countries are) going to suffer. HARJEET: All of us as individuals have to play our part. The way we use electricity or other forms of energy. Science is very clear where we are. NIALA: I've been here at COP28 with Axios' Andrew Freedman, who's been covering climate-- and these UN negotiations--for decades. I asked him for his take on what role climate activists play in these talks. ANDREW FREEDMAN: So climate activists really play, kind of a conscience role. They're, they're the conscience of the UNFCCC process in a way. They team up with different country coalitions to push certain positions so that negotiators take them into the negotiating rooms. And really stick to those actual positions when the going gets tough. They often get quite a bit of media attention for doing actions in the site of where the negotiations are, doing different protests. they are what brings this issue down to Earth because a lot of the negotiators can get caught up in uh technical language. They can get caught up in the battles of the day and the activists are really the voices for the people on the ground who are suffering increasingly uh, from climate change. That's Axios' Andrew Freedman. And that's all for this week's edition of 1 Big Thing. You can always send feedback by texting me at 202 918 4893, or emailing podcasts @ axios.com. [COP28: Subnational gov't's effort aimed at lowering methane emissions launched](#) Air Quality Matters - Science Blog. PM 2.5 · RSS · Latest From Science Blog · Twilight Galaxies · Extreme conditions in stars produce the universe's heaviest elements · Researchers. [What Is PM 2.5? Why Masks Won't Be Able To Protect You From It? Air Pollution News](#) YouTube. What Is PM 2.5? Why Masks Won't Be Able To Protect You From It? Air Pollution News #airpollution #smog #healthnews #airpollutionindia #health. Connecticut, Mapperton. [Bridport firefighters rush to chimney blaze in Mapperton | Bridport and Lyme Regis News](#) They stressed that, when lighting an open fire or wood burning stove to not use flammable liquids such as petrol or paraffin. ... smoke leaking from. Georgia, Atlanta. [Popular Atlanta wood-fired pizza restaurant to close after 12 years, it announces](#) Atlanta News First. Ammazza, a popular. India. [India News | Unseasonal Rain Improves Kolkata's Air Quality: Official | LatestLY](#) PM IST. A-; A+. India News | Unseasonal Rain Improves Kolkata's Air 5), significantly better than 150-250 (PM 2.5) recorded during December 1-5. [Delhi's Air Quality Remains in 'Very Poor' Category – NewsX](#) Yadav elaborated on the identification of 131 cities, the implementation of schemes to address toxic emissions, particularly PM 2.5 and PM 10, and the. [Delhi air remains in 'very poor' zone for third consecutive day - The Statesman](#) Primary pollutants in the national capital's air on Thursday were the PM 2.5 micro particles, the CPCB said. [World Bank launches comprehensive programme to combat India's escalating air pollution crisis](#) India Today NE particulate matter (PM) 2.5 pollution particulate matter (PM) 2.5 pollution. [World Bank launches comprehensive programme to combat air pollution crisis in India](#) The Times of India particulate matter(PM)2.5 pollution. According to the World Bank, the endeavour includes the introduction of airshed management tools. [The World Bank's Mantra For Air Pollution Control In South Asia - Health Policy Watch](#) PM 2.5, by as much as 55% in the past In the best-case scenario, the cost per 1 µg/m<sup>3</sup> reduction in average PM 2.5 levels would be \$278 million.



