

Report on the World Environmental Health Day Ceremony

Saveh University of Medical Sciences, Iran

Date: September 30, 2025 (Mehr 8, 1404)

Venue: Shahid Rahnmoon Conference Hall, **Saveh University of Medical Sciences, Saveh, Iran.**

**Theme for the 2025
World Environmental Health Day:**

CLEAN AIR, HEALTHY PEOPLE



Introduction

In celebration of World Environmental Health Day, Saveh University of Medical Sciences organized a ceremony to emphasize the crucial role of environmental health in promoting public well-being. The event gathered university officials, environmental health experts, local authorities, and representatives from governmental and non-governmental organizations to discuss key challenges, achievements, and strategies for improving environmental health at both local and national levels.



1. Opening and Welcome Address

The ceremony was inaugurated by **Dr. Hossein Masoumi Asl**, Dean of Saveh University of Medical Sciences. He welcomed attendees and highlighted the importance of environmental health as a foundation for disease prevention and societal well-being. Dr. Masoumi Asl expressed appreciation for the efforts of faculty members, managers, and environmental health experts, as well as the collaboration of various organizations in supporting environmental initiatives. Participants included:

- Faculty members of the Environmental Health Department
- Head and Technical Deputy of the University's Health Deputy
- Managers of health centers from Saveh and Zarandieh counties
- Environmental health experts

Representatives from the Department of Environment, Water and Wastewater Company, Municipal Waste Management, Trade Guilds Organization, and NGOs.

2. Address by the Head of the Health Deputy

Dr. Azizi, Head of the University Health Deputy, praised the dedication of colleagues in the environmental health sector and emphasized the irreplaceable role of environmental health professionals in safeguarding community health. He reaffirmed institutional support for ongoing specialized and field activities.

3. Scientific Presentation by the Head of the Health Sciences Department

Dr. Hosseinzadeh, Associate Professor of Environmental Health Engineering, delivered a speech on this year's theme: "Clean Air; Healthy People."



3.1. Key points included:

- Recognition: Congratulations to all colleagues on World Environmental Health Day, initiated by IFEH, especially faculty, experts, and students of Saveh University.
- Environmental Health Principle: Environmental health is fundamental to a healthy society.
- Theme Significance: Clean air is a human right and essential for healthy living, social vitality, and sustainable development.
- Global and National Challenges: Air pollution is a major threat globally. In Iran, industrial emissions, urban traffic, PM2.5, and improper waste management contribute to respiratory and cardiovascular diseases.
- Statistics and Economic Impact: Over 35,500 deaths last year were attributed to PM2.5 exposure in Iran, with an estimated economic burden of \$14 billion.

3.2. Local Context: Saveh City

Dr. Hosseinzadeh analyzed local environmental challenges:

- Industrial Hub: Saveh hosts over 550 industrial units and serves as a major transit route for thousands of vehicles.
- Monitoring Limitations: Only one active air quality monitoring station is operational, insufficient to represent city-wide conditions.
- Urban Pressures: Rapid urbanization and migration strain environmental resources.
- Pollution Fees: Required fees from industries have not been fully allocated to environmental improvements.
- Learning from Other Cities: Proper use of pollution fees can enhance public transport, increase green spaces, and reduce air pollution.
- 5. Shared Responsibility and Call to Action

3.3. The ceremony concluded with key recommendations:

- Enforce the Clean Air Law fully and decisively.
- Hold polluting industries accountable and ensure the payment of pollution fees.
- Invest in public transport, pedestrian pathways, and green spaces.

- Promote environmental awareness and citizen participation to improve energy consumption and lifestyles.
- Universities and specialized environmental health groups should lead in scientific research, monitoring, and evidence-based solutions to combat air pollution.

Final Note: Clean air is a fundamental right and an enduring legacy for future generations. Concerted national, local, and scientific efforts are essential to ensure that Saveh, Iran, and other cities can benefit from this vital resource.

4. Student Ceremony

A separate ceremony was held for students to celebrate World Environmental Health Day and raise awareness among the next generation of environmental health professionals.

5. Recognition and Appreciation

Plaques and certificates were presented to:

- Organizations collaborating effectively with the Environmental Health Department
- Exemplary managers and environmental health experts from Saveh and Zarandieh counties