

Pollution and human rights gaps on Wikipedia!

Things you should know:

- Pollution and chemical exposure kill nearly [14 million people a year](#)
- [Clean air](#) and clean water are intimately connected with other human rights issues related to health and well-being
- Plastic pollution has been found in every ecosystem in the world, and has negative effects on all living beings.
- Polluting industries such as mining and manufacturing, are also sites of complex human rights and other legal violations

Learn more in the UN Human Rights Key Messages [document on hazardous substances](#)

What topics on Wikipedia are connected to pollution?

- Extractive industries
- Manufacturing
- Trash, plastics and other waste
- Fashion, esp. Fast fashion
- Cities and urban
- Waterways
- Agricultural topics
- Marginalized communities and settlements

For more ideas, see these [WikiProject Climate Change on English](#)

Talking points that you can use:

- Wikipedia documents thousands of cities, industrial sites and industries, but the human rights and human health impacts are rarely connected
- When environmental conflicts happen around industrial or extractive sites Wikipedia articles get sudden increases in page views

- We know that Wikipedia is a top site for people seeking health information and [occupational health](#) information.

- Pollution issues can take many years to reach the news, Wikipedia provides a persistent place to document public information.

What do you need to know about Pollution organizing?

Community groups are often focused on local issues or topics. Look for activist groups that can help you identify local issues.

Photography may be an effective way to document issues that don't have widespread source coverage.

Tips for Organizing with Wikimedia

- **Focus on small edits to social and local topics-** try getting new editors to expand existing articles about industry, mines and cities. .
- **Try to connect with grassroots organizations-** they know where the conflicts are and how to find experts.
- **Try to focus on the human impact-** writing about the human impact will more likely have sources (i.e. news, government and academic)