

Jason R Glaser

Title: CEO

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Speaker Biography:

Jason is the founder and CEO of La Isla Network (LIN), an occupational health research organization and advisory dedicated to ending heat related illnesses, including chronic kidney disease from non-traditional causes (CKDnT) among workers and their communities worldwide. His goal is to drive research and policy that furthers understanding and prevention of occupational heat stress and CKDnT in a changing climate. His and LIN's work has appeared in leading research publications, been covered extensively in the media, has been featured in ILO reports addressing climate change and heat stress and was a focus of a recent documentary on occupational heat stress and climate change from the Arte Channel in France and Germany.

Presentation Title:

Impact Beyond the Impact Factor: Protecting Workers in a Changing Climate

Abstract:

As the climate warms, globally labourers are at increased risk of preventable illness and death due to heat stress. High temperatures have long contributed to early mortality, increased risk of injury and reduced productivity in equatorial regions, and have recently been recognized as a growing problem in the developed economies of the USA, European Union and Australia. Yet, to respond to these trends most workers and employers contend with unevaluated guidance, recommendations and regulations when looking to protect themselves and their teams. Many of those at risk are simultaneously the most vulnerable and most essential for our economies, working in construction, agriculture, tourism and transport.

The Prevention Resilience Efficiency and Protection (PREP) program was developed as a response to the need and the current deficit of actionable data needed to adequately protect workers. Work from mesoamerica shows that harm can be reduced, productivity increased and return on investment is possible through practical interventions that benefit workers, employers and their communities. This work is presently being adapted to several industries in South America, the United States, and the EU with hopes of supporting partners in Kuwait and the other Arab States of the Persian Gulf. Jason Glaser, a cofounder of PREP and CEO of La Isla Network, will share findings and discuss with participants how PREP may be useful in the varied contexts facing workers globally and specifically in Kuwait.